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WAIT, AZEALIA BANKS JUST SAID WHAT?

Hip-hop's polarizing outsider picks fights with Iggy, Kendrick, 'fat white Americans' and even this magazine. So is the rage real or performance art – and does it even matter? 'I'm not here to be your idol'

WALE FACES HIS DEMONS

Seinfeld's favorite rapper on his drug use: 'There's a pill for everything'

THE TIDAL BLOWBACK

After a shaky launch, can Jay Z's streaming service find its footing?

April 11, 2015 | billboard.com



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billboard HOT 100

Rihanna's looking "Money" with her newest hit single.

Rihanna's 'Money' Stacks High

RIHANNA'S STOCK JUST GOT A BOOST. THE singer's latest, "Bitch Better Have My Money," blasts onto the Billboard Hot 100 at No. 23, the chart's highest debut. The trap-infused track soars onto Digital Songs at No. 5 with 108,000 downloads sold in the week ending March 29, according to Nielsen Music. It was released March 26, and following its first full week of sales — plus a performance of the song at the second iHeartMusic Awards (March 29) — it should surge higher on the April 18 Hot 100. Radio is already buying in, as "Money" nears the all-format Radio Songs chart with 21 million in overall audience. Both "Money" and prior single "FourFiveSeconds," with **Kanye West** and **Paul McCartney** (at No. 8), introduce Rihanna's forthcoming eighth studio album.

Atop the Hot 100, **Mark Ronson's** "Uptown Funk!" (featuring **Bruno Mars**) reaches a milestone: It rules the chart for a 13th week, passing **Robin Thicke's** 2013 No. 1, "Blurred Lines" (featuring **T.I.** and **Pharrell Williams**), for the longest stint this decade. It also is one of just 10 tracks to crown the Hot 100 for at least 13 weeks in the chart's history, which dates back to 1958. **Mariah Carey** and **Boyz II Men's** "One Sweet Day" holds the all-time mark, spending 16 weeks at No. 1 during 1995 and 1996.

—GARY TRUST

	2 Weeks Ago	Last Week	This Week	Title PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	CERTIFICATION	Artist IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	Peak Position	Weeks On Chart
1	1	1	1	#1 13 WKS Uptown Funk! Mark Ronson Feat. Bruno Mars M. RONSON, J. BHASKER, BRUNO MARS (BRUNO MARS, PLAWRENCE I. M. RONSON, J. BHASKER, D. GALLASPY, N. WILLIAMS)		RCA	1	20
2	2	2	2	Sugar AMMO, CIRKUT (A. LEVINE, J. COLEMAN, L. GOTTWALD, J. K. HINDLIN, M. POSNER, H. R. WALTER)		222/INTERSCOPE	2	11
3	3	3	3	Thinking Out Loud J. GOSLING (E. C. SHEERAN, A. WADGE)		ATLANTIC	2	25
4	4	4	4	Love Me Like You Do MAX MARTIN, A. PAYAMI (MAX MARTIN, SKOTECHE, J. SALMANZADEH, A. PAYAMI, L. TO)		UNIVERSAL STUDIOS/REPUBLIC/INTERSCOPE	3	12
6	6	6	5	AG Earned It (Fifty Shades Of Grey) The Weeknd S. MOCCIO, J. QUENNEVILLE (A. TESFAYE, S. MOCCIO, J. QUENNEVILLE, A. BALSHE)		UNIVERSAL STUDIOS/REPUBLIC	5	14
10	8	6	6	Trap Queen T. FADD (W. J. MAXWELL, T. FADD)		RGF/300	6	10
7	7	7	7	Style Taylor Swift MAX MARTIN, SHELLBACK (T. SWIFT, MAX MARTIN, SHELLBACK, A. PAYAMI)		BIG MACHINE/REPUBLIC	6	16
5	5	8	8	FourFiveSeconds Rihanna & Kanye West & Paul McCartney K. WEST, P. MCCARTNEY, M. G. DEAN (K. WEST, P. MCCARTNEY, K. DOCKERY, M. G. DEAN, T. GRIFFIN JR., D. LONGSTRETH, D. L. AUSTIN, E. RUTBERG, N. GOLDSTEIN)		WESTBURY ROAD/ROC NATION	4	10
13	10	9	9	G.D.F.R. Flo Rida Feat. Sage The Gemini & Lookas D. FRANK, E. A. CEDAR, M. BEARD (D. DILLARD, J. FRANKS, A. CEDAR, D. WOODS, PRODRIGUEZ, M. CAREN, C. W. MILLER, G. GOLDSTEIN, H. BROWN, H. E. SCOTT, L. OSKAR, L. J. JORDAN, M. DICKERSON, S. ALLEN)		POE BOY/ATLANTIC	9	20
15	13	10	10	Somebody Natalie La Rose Featuring Jeremih COOK CLASSICS, THE FUTURISTICS (W. LOBBAN-BEAN, A. SCHWARTZ, J. K. HAJADOURIAN, G. MERRILL, S. RUBICAM)		I.M.G./REPUBLIC	10	10

68

TORI KELLY
Nobody
Love



The 22-year-old singer's first Hot 100 hit precedes her full-length debut.

Max Martin, who produced hits for Taylor Swift, Katy Perry and more, helmed “Nobody Love.” What was working with him like?

Intimidating. Amazing. He’s a perfectionist, which I had to get used to. It took three, four days to get the lyrics right. The deeper meaning of the song is how our generation is always chasing the next thing. Nothing is ever good enough. I’m saying, “Just chill, trust and be happy with what you’ve got.”

How did you connect with your manager Scooter Braun, who also reps Justin Bieber and Carly Rae Jepsen?


Scooter came to one of my very first shows

in L.A., right after I put out my first viral video, a cover of Frank Ocean’s “Thinkin’ Bout You.” He’s always dropping nuggets of wisdom, but it’s his passion that rubbed off on me the most. It’s inspiring. It makes me want to throw my soul to the world.

You’re not shy about your Christianity. How does religion factor into your music?

My faith is a huge part of my life. I don’t force it into my music, but it’s in my experiences so it comes through. People pick up on what they want to pick up on, but any way strangers connect to a song that I wrote is awesome.

—MEGAN BUERGER



10

NATALIE LA ROSE
Somebody

The Dutch singer's debut hit cracks the top 10 of the Hot 100, backed by a 10-8 climb on the Radio Songs tally (73 million in audience, up 9 percent) and a 31-19 jump on the Streaming Songs list (4.3 million U.S. streams, up 5 percent).

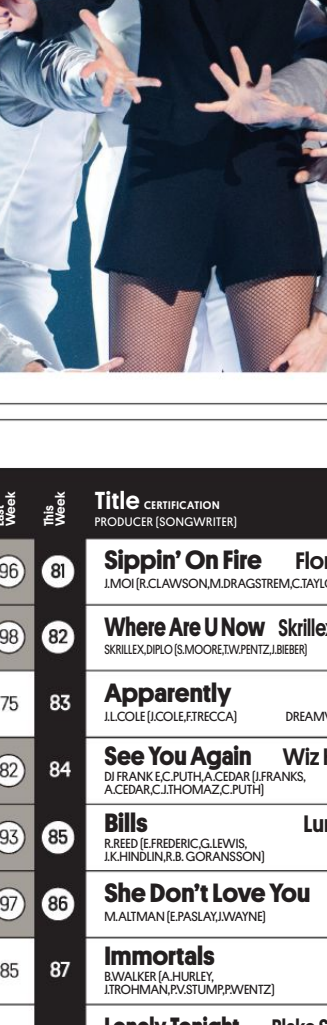
2 Weeks Ago	Last Week	This Week	Title	CERTIFICATION PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	Artist	Peak Position	Weeks On Chart
9	9	11	Time Of Our Lives	DR. LUKE, CIRKUT (A.C. PEREZ, L. GOTTWALD, STAFF, H. R. WALTER, A. BURNA, S.C. SMITH)	Pitbull & Ne-Yo	9	16
21	15	12	Shut Up And Dance	T. PAGNOTTA (N. PETRICCA, E. MAIMAN, K. RAY, S. WAUGHAMAN, B. BERGER, R. MCMAHON)	WALK THE MOON	12	20
12	11	13	Blank Space	MAX MARTIN, SHELLBACK (T. SWIFT, MAX MARTIN, SHELLBACK)	Taylor Swift	1	22
11	12	14	Take Me To Church	A. HOZIER-BYRNE (A. HOZIER-BYRNE)	Hozier	2	33
14	14	15	Truffle Butter	NINETEN85, M. COLES (OTI MARAJ, A. GRAHAM, D. CARTER, P. JEFFERIES, M. COLES)	Nicki Minaj	14	10
18	16	16	One Last Time	C. FALK, J. ILYA, G. H. T. UNFORT (D. GUETTA, S. KOTECH, A. G. H. T. UNFORT, R. YACOB, C. FALK)	Ariana Grande	16	7
45	27	17	Want To Want Me	J. KIRKPATRICK (J. DESROULEAUX, S. MARTIN, L. ROBBINS, J. KIRKPATRICK, M. ALLAN)	Jason Derulo	17	3
8	18	18	Lay Me Down	J. NAPES, S. FITZMAURICE (S. SMITH, J. NAPIER, E. SMITH)	Sam Smith	8	8
20	20	19	Chains	J. EVIGAN (J. EVIGAN, A. MALIK, D. PARKER, D. FERGUSON, JR.)	Nick Jonas	19	9
27	21	20	Take Your Time	Z. CROWELL, S. MCANALLY (S. HUNT, J. OSBORNE, S. MCANALLY)	Sam Hunt	20	13

2 Weeks Ago	Last Week	This Week	Title	CERTIFICATION PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	Artist	Peak Position	Weeks On Chart
23	22	21	Ayo	NIC NAC, M. L. KRAGEN (C. M. BROWN, M. R. NGUYEN-STEVENSON, N. BALDING, M. L. KRAGEN, J. JACKSON)	Chris Brown & Tyga	21	12
41	32	22	Post To Be	D. MUSTARD, M. ADAM (O. GRANDBERRY, D. MCFARLANE, M. ADAM, M. POWELL, S. EAN, C. M. BROWN, J. A. E. CHILOMBO, E. BONNER, L. DUNBAR, J. TAYLOR, L. WILLS)	Omarion	22	12
HOT SHOT DEBUT		23	B*** Better Have My Money	DEPUTY, K. WEST (J. PIERRE, B. BOURELLY, R. FENTY, J. WEBSTER, K. O. WEST)	Rihanna	23	1
22	24	24	Shake It Off	MAX MARTIN, SHELLBACK (T. SWIFT, MAX MARTIN, SHELLBACK)	Taylor Swift	1	32
17	17	25	Lips Are Movin	K. KADISH (M. TRAINOR, K. KADISH)	Meghan Trainor	4	23
24	26	26	I Want You To Know	ZEDD (A. ZASLAVSKI, R. B. TEDDER, K. N. DREW)	Zedd	17	5
19	23	27	I'm Not The Only One	J. NAPES, S. FITZMAURICE (J. NAPIER, S. SMITH)	Sam Smith	5	30
16	19	28	I Don't Mind	DR. LUKE, CIRKUT (J. HOUSTON, L. GOTTWALD, J. K. HINDLIN, T. THOMAS, T. THOMAS, H. R. WALTER)	Usher	11	19
37	30	29	Outside	CALVIN HARRIS (CALVIN HARRIS, E. GOULDING)	Calvin Harris	29	16
35	33	30	Blessings	VINYLZ, A. RITTER (S. M. ANDERSON, A. HERNANDEZ, A. RITTER, A. GRAHAM)	Big Sean	30	8
30	28	31	Heartbeat Song	G. KURSTIN (K. DIOGUARDI, J. EVIGAN, A. MAE, M. ALLAN)	Kelly Clarkson	21	11
28	25	32	All About That Bass	K. KADISH (M. TRAINOR, K. KADISH)	Meghan Trainor	1	38
61	51	33	SG Throw Sum Mo	Feat. Nicki Minaj & Young Thug S. O. UNDO (A. BROWN, K. J. BROWN, K. COBY, M. L. WILLIAMS, J. PFEFFTON, OTI MARAJ, J. WILLIAMS)	Rae Sremmurd	33	13
25	29	34	Centuries	J. R. ROTHEN, O. MEGA (J. R. ROTHEN, P. V. STUMP, P. WENTZ, J. TROHMAN, A. HURLEY, M. L. FONSECA, R. KUMAR, L. R. ANTINER, S. VEGA)	Fall Out Boy	10	29
29	31	35	Only	DR. LUKE, CIRKUT, J. MIKE (OTI MARAJ, A. GRAHAM, D. CARTER, J. M. COLEMAN, L. GOTTWALD, T. THOMAS, T. THOMAS, H. R. WALTER)	Nicki Minaj	12	22
42	41	36	Homegrown	J. JOYCE, Z. BROWN (Z. BROWN, W. D. DURRETTE, N. MOON)	Zac Brown Band	36	11
46	39	37	Talking Body	THE STRUTS, SHELLBACK (T. L. O. J. JERLSTROM, L. M. SODERBERG)	Tove Lo	37	9
38	40	38	Riptide	J. CASTLE, J. KEOGH, E. WHITE (VANCE JOY)	Vance Joy	30	40
34	37	39	Stay With Me	J. NAPES, S. FITZMAURICE, R. JERKINS (S. SMITH, J. NAPIER, W. PHILLIPS, J. LYNETTE, E. PETTY)	Sam Smith	2	51
33	34	40	I Don't F**k With You	D. MUSTARD, K. WEST, M. ADAM, D. DAH (S. M. ANDERSON, D. MCFARLANE, G. OOD, K. O. WEST, M. ADAM, D. NATCH, D. M. WER, I. W. HANSBRO, E. J. STEVENS, D. J. ROGERS SR.)	Big Sean	11	27
32	38	41	Jealous	SIR NOLAN (N. JONAS, N. LAMBROZA, S. WILCOX)	Nick Jonas	7	29
40	35	42	Animals	SHELLBACK (A. N. LEVINE, SHELLBACK, B. LEVIN)	Maroon 5	3	32
52	45	43	Night Changes	J. BUNETTA, J. RYAN (J. RYAN, J. BUNETTA, J. SCOTT, L. TOMLINSON, N. HORAN, Z. MALIK, H. STYLES)	One Direction	31	19
36	42	44	7/11	B. KNOWLES, B. JOHNSON, DETAIL, S. SWIFT (B. JOHNSON, N. C. FISHER, B. KNOWLES)	Beyonce	13	18
90	95	45	DG Girl Crush	J. JOYCE (L. ROSE, L. MCKENNA, H. LINDSEY)	Little Big Town	45	6
26	36	46	She Knows	DR. LUKE, CIRKUT (S. C. SMITH, J. HOUSTON, L. GOTTWALD, H. R. WALTER)	Ne-Yo	19	19
49	48	47	Elastic Heart	DIPLOG, KURSTIN (S. K. FURLER, T. W. PENITZ, A. SWANSON)	Sia	17	12
72	62	48	Budapest	BLACKWOOD C. (G. EZRA, J. POTT)	George Ezra	48	9
48	43	49	Ain't Worth The Whiskey	M. CARTER (C. SWINDELL, A. SANDERS, J. MARTIN)	Cole Swindell	43	13
77	56	50	Honey, I'm Good.	B. WEST, N. W. SIPE, S. GREENBERG (A. GRAMMER, N. W. SIPE)	Andy Grammer	50	5

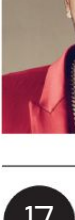
SALES, AIRPLAY & STREAMING DATA COMPILED BY  The week's most popular current songs across all genres, ranked by radio airplay audience impressions as measured by Nielsen Music, sales data as compiled by Nielsen Music and streaming activity data by online music sources tracked by Nielsen Music. Songs are defined as current if they are newly-released titles, or songs receiving widespread airplay and/or sales activity for the first time. See Charts Legend on billboard.com/biz for complete rules and explanations. © 2015, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.

KELLY: SARAH BARLOW & STEPHEN SCHOTTEL; LA ROSE: COURTESY OF REPUBLIC RECORDS; SWIFT: SAMIR HUSSEIN/REDFERNS/GETTY IMAGES; DERULO: BRIAN BOWEN SMITH; BREAKING BENJAMIN: COURTESY OF HOLLYWOOD RECORDS

Weeks Age	Last Week	This Week	Title		Artist	Peak Position	Weeks On Chart
			CERTIFICATION PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL			
64	58	51	Slow Motion	C.PUTH,G.OFFRO C.AUSE [T.NEVERSON, C.PUTH,G.EARLEY,I.K.HINDLIN]	Trey Songz SONGBOOK/ATLANTIC	51	7
57	50	52	Lonely Eyes	J.STROUD [J.BULFORD,J.MATTHEWS,L.VELTZ]	Chris Young RCA NASHVILLE	50	15
63	55	53	Homegrown Honey	F.ROGERS [D.RUCKER,C.KELLEY,N.CHAPMAN]	Darius Rucker CAPITOL NASHVILLE	53	18
60	54	54	I Bet My Life	IMAGINE DRAGONS [IMAGINE DRAGONS]	Imagine Dragons KIDINAKORNER/INTERSCOPE	28	21
-	47	55	Dear Future Husband	K.KADISH [M.TRAINOR,K.KADISH]	Meghan Trainor EPIC	47	11
39	44	56	Prayer In C	R.SCHULZ,P.GUIMARD [N.HADIDA,B.COTTO]	Lillywood & Robin Schulz CHOKE INDUSTRY/TONSPILL/ CINO 7/WAGRAM/ATLANTIC/RRP	23	17
66	57	57	Know Yourself	BO-HIDA,VINYLY.SKY SENSE [A.GRAHAM,Q.MILLER, M.SAMUELS,A.HERNANDEZ,I.SCRUGGS]	Drake YOUNG MONEY/ CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	57	6
87	78	58	Worth It	STARGATE,Q.KAPLAN [PRISCILLA RENEA, M.S.ERIKSEN,T.E.HERMANSEN,Q.KAPLAN]	Fifth Harmony Feat. Kid Ink SYCO/EPIC	58	6
58	59	59	Geronimo	S.S.TUART [G.SHEPPARD, A.SHEPPARD,J.BOVINO]	Sheppard EMPIRE OF SONG/ CHUGG/SCHOOLBOY/REPUBLIC	58	14
71	65	60	Say You Do	R.COPPERMAN [M.RAMSEY,S.MCANALLY,T.ROSEN]	Dierks Bentley CAPITOL NASHVILLE	60	11
54	52	61	Energy	BO-HIDA [A.GRAHAM, M.SAMUELS]	Drake YOUNG MONEY/ CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	26	7
51	53	62	All Day	Kanye West Feat. Theophilus London, Allan Kingdom & Paul McCartney D.DODD,Y.PENNY,M.DANAW,V.BUSCH,LE.HOTI,M.GEAN,G.NGCOUSTEN [N.COVES,S.COMBS,PACCAHNET,C.MPANT, C.DUC,WORTH,K.HARBORG,B.RONC,C.OUNG,M.DHABA,K.VARGA,G.GEANC,I.POPEN,G.COUSTEN,A.BITTER,M.MANINASC]	GOOD,ROC- AFELLA/DE LA JAM	15	4
76	69	63	Watch Me	BOLO DA PRODUCER [T.B.MINGO,R.L.HAWK]	Silento BOLO	63	5
74	73	64	A Guy Walks Into A Bar	J.CATINO,J.KING [M.PEIRCE,J.SINGLETON,B.TURSI]	Tyler Farr COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	64	13
62	63	65	Legend	PARTYNEXTDOOR [A.GRAHAM, J.A.BRATHWAITE,Q.MILLER,B.BUSHT,V.MOSLEY]	Drake YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	52	7
NEW		66	El Perdon	Nicky Jam & Enrique Iglesias SAGA WHITEBLACK [N.RIVERA CAMINERO,E.M.I.GLESIAS]	LA INDUSTRIA/SONY MUSIC LATIN	66	1
NEW		67	Trouble	Iggy Azalea Feat. Jennifer Hudson THE INVISIBLE MEN,SALT WIVES [A.A.KELLY,J.HILL, J.A.PEBWORTH,G.ASTASIQ,I.SHAVE,SALT WIVES,I.TURNER]	Jennifer Hudson TURN FIRST+HUSTLE GANG/DEF JAM	67	1
80	74	68	Nobody Love	Tori Kelly MAX MARTIN,R.B.GORANSSON [T.KELLY, MAX MARTIN,S.KOTECHE,R.B. GORANSSON]	Capitol	68	5
43	60	69	I Bet	Ciara H-MONEY [H.D.SAMUELS,I.THOMAS,I.THOMAS,C.P.HARRIS]	EPIC	43	5
NEW		70	Hey Mama	David Guetta Feat. Nicki Minaj & Afrojack D.GUETTA,A.ROOACK,G.H.TUNFORT,E.DEAN [D.GUETTA, G.H.TUNFORT, N.VAN DE WALLE,D.EAN,B.REXHA,S.DOUGLAS,Q.TIMARAJ]	WHAT A MUSIC/ PARLOPHONE/ATLANTIC	70	1
59	64	71	CoCo	O.T. Genasis O.FLORES [O.FLORES,S.THOMAS]	CONGLOMERATE/ATLANTIC	20	19
83	77	72	Smoke	A Thousand Horses D.COBB [M.HOBBY,J.M.NITER,COPPERMAN]	REPUBLIC NASHVILLE	72	5
55	72	73	Little Red Wagon	Miranda Lambert FLJDELL,C.AINLAY,G.WORF [A.MAE,GINSBERG,I.]	RCA NASHVILLE	55	7
78	76	74	10 Bands	Drake BO-HIDA,FRANK DUKES [A.GRAHAM,Q.MILLER, M.SAMUELS,A.FEENY,R.THOMAS III]	YOUNG MONEY/ CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	58	7
69	71	75	Feeling Myself	Nicki Minaj Feat. Beyonce HIT-BOY,B.KNOWLES [Q.TIMARAJ, B.KNOWLES,S.ROWE,C.HOLLIS]	YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	43	15
88	81	76	Don't It	Billy Currington D.HUFF [J.OHNSTON,A.GORLEY,R.COPPERMAN]	MERCURY NASHVILLE	76	4
84	79	77	Raise 'Em Up	Keith Urban Feat. Eric Church N.CHAPMAN,K.URBAN [J.OHNSTON, JEFFREY STEELE,I.DOUGLAS]	HIT RED/CAPITOL NASHVILLE	77	5
-	61	78	King Kunta	Kendrick Lamar SOUNWAVE [K.DUCKWORTH,H.SPEARS,I.M.BURNS, M.I.JACKSON,A.LEWIS,S.GORDY,I.BROWN,W.FWESLEY,I.STARK]	TOP DAWG/ AFTERMATH/INTERSCOPE	61	2
31	67	79	Believe	Mumford & Sons J.FORD [MUMFORD & SONS]	GENTLEMEN OF THE ROAD/GLASSNOTE	31	3
NEW		80	Failure	Breaking Benjamin B.BURNLEY [B.BURNLEY]	HOLLYWOOD	80	1

		<div>7</div>		TAYLOR SWIFT Style		Taylor Swift her chart spend on the peak! Sheer becom Adult page 2014 “Shak on top Spac with in 20 crown tally f	
Weeks Ago	Last Week	This Week	Title	CERTIFICATION PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	Artist IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	Peak Position	Weeks On Chart
-	96	81	Sippin' On Fire	Florida Georgia Line J.MOI (R.CLAWSON,M.DRAGSTRE,M.TAYLOR)	REPUBLIC NASHVILLE	62	3
93	98	82	Where Are U Now	Skrillex & Diplo SKRILLEX,DIPLO (S.MOORE,TW/PENTZ,I.BIEBER)	Feat. Justin Bieber MAD DECENT/OWSLA/ATLANTIC	82	4
67	75	83	Apparently	J. Cole J.L.COLE(J.COLE,F.TRECCA)	DREAMVILLE/ROC NATION/COLUMBIA	58	15
100	82	84	See You Again	Wiz Khalifa DI FRANK E.C.PUTH,A.CEDAR (J.FRANKS,A.CEDAR,C.J.THOMAZ,C.PUTH)	Feat. Charlie Puth UNIVERSAL STUDIOS/ATLANTIC/RRP	82	3
95	93	85	Bills	LunchMoney Lewis R.REED (F.FREDERIC,G.LEWIS,I.K.HINDLIN,R.B. GORANSSON)	KEMOSABE/COLUMBIA	85	3
92	97	86	She Don't Love You	Eric Paslay M.MALTMAN (E.PASLAY,I.WAYNE)	EMI NASHVILLE	86	4
79	85	87	Immortals	Fall Out Boy B.WALKER (A.HURLEY,I.TROHMAN,P.V.STUMP,P.WENTZ)	WALT DISNEY/DCD2/ISLAND	72	6
65	80	88	Lonely Tonight	Blake Shelton S.HENDRICKS (B.ANDERSON,R.HURD)	Feat. Ashley Monroe WARNER BROS. NASHVILLE/WMN	47	17
68	87	89	I Really Like You	Carly Rae Jepsen P.SVENSSON,J.HALATRAX (J.K.HINDLIN,P.SVENSSON,C.R.JEPSEN)	604/SCHOOLBOY/INTERSCOPE	48	4
RE-ENTRY		90	Little Toy Guns	Carrie Underwood M.BRIGHT (C.UNDERWOOD,C.DESTEFANO,H.LINDSEY)	19/ARISTA NASHVILLE	90	2
NEW		91	Baby Blue	Action Bronson M.ROBINSON (A.ARSLAN,M.ROBINSON,C.BENNETT,Z.LOWE)	Feat. Chance The Rapper VICE/ATLANTIC	91	1
RE-ENTRY		92	Diamond Rings And Old Barstools	Tim McGraw With Catherine Dunn B.GALLIMORE,T.MCGRAW (L.LAIRD,B.DEAN,J.SINGLETON)	MCGRAW/BIG MACHINE	92	2
RE-ENTRY		93	Bright	Echosmith M.ELIZONDO (E.CHOSMITH,J.DAVID,M.MCDONALD)	WARNER BROS.	93	2
56	70	94	Just Gettin' Started	Jason Aldean M.KNOX (C.DESTEFANO,R.AKINS,A.GORLEY)	BROKEN BOW	54	18
75	89	95	Make Me Wanna	Thomas Rhett J.JOYCE (T.THOMAS RHETT,B.BUTLER,L.MCCOY)	VALORY	43	20
NEW		96	Love You Like That	Canaan Smith B.BEAVERS,J.ROBBINS (C.SMITH,B.BEAVERS,I.BEAVERS)	MERCURY NASHVILLE	96	1
81	90	97	I See You	Luke Bryan J.STEVENS (L.BRYAN,L.LAIRD,A.GORLEY)	CAPITOL NASHVILLE	41	18
RE-ENTRY		98	Wild Child	Kenny Chesney With Grace Potter B.CANNON,K.C.HESNEY (K.C.HESNEY,S.MCANALLY,I.OSBORNE)	BLUE CHAIR/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	97	2
NEW		99	You Know You Like It	DJ Snake & AlunaGeorge DJ SNAKE (A.DEWI/H.FRANCIS,G.REID)	INTERSCOPE	99	1
NEW		100	Like A Wrecking Ball	Eric Church J.JOYCE (E.CHURCH,C.BEATHARD)	EMI NASHVILLE	100	1


Taylor Swift adds another No. 1 to her chart résumé: “Style,” which spends its third week at No. 7 on the Billboard Hot 100 after peaking at No. 6, dethrones **Ed Sheeran**’s “Thinking Out Loud” to become her fourth leader on the Adult Top 40 airplay chart (see page 56) — and third from her 2014 blockbuster album, *1989*. “Shake It Off” spent eight weeks on top, and follow-up “Blank Space” ruled for six. (She first led with “I Knew You Were Trouble” in 2013.) “Style” concurrently crowns the Mainstream Top 40 tally for a third week.



17

JASON DERULO
Want to Want Me

Derulo posts his 10th top 20 Hot 100 hit, which jumps 19-15 on Digital Songs (66,000 sold; up 36 percent) and 25-17 on Radio Songs (47 million impressions, up 16 percent).



80

BREAKING BENJAMIN
Failure

The veteran band charts its first Hot 100 entry since 2010 with "Failure," which also starts on the Hot Rock Songs tally at No. 8 (43,000 sold). The track introduces the group's fifth studio release, *Dark Before Dawn* (June 23).

Contents

THIS WEEK

Volume 127 / No. 10

“We don’t buy many new things. It’s our contribution to global warming.”

— Miranda Kilbey
of Say Lou Lou

ON THE COVER

Azealia Banks photographed by Ramona Rosales on March 24 at the Metropolitan Building in New York. For an exclusive interview and behind-the-scenes video of the rapper discussing Harlem’s influence on her style, go to Billboard.com or Billboard.com/ipad.

CORRECTION

The April 4 issue listed Snoop Dogg as a headliner, rather than a performer, for BottleRock in Napa, Calif. (May 29–31). Additionally, the cost of a three-day VIP pass is \$595.

FEATURES

- 32 Wait, Azealia Banks Just Said What?** Once touted as hip-hop’s next can’t-miss star, this millennial provocateur is now better-known for her nude *Playboy* spread and outspoken social media volleys (looking at you, Iggy): “I’m not here to be your idol.”
- 38 “Thank You God For Another Day”** After overcoming mental illness and a shrink’s ruthless exploitation, Beach Boys legend Brian Wilson, 72, shows his resilience is as remarkable as his legacy: “I am alive, and that feels great.”

THE BILLBOARD HOT 100

- 1** Rihanna roars with “Bitch Better Have

My Money,” while Mark Ronson and Bruno Mars hit a milestone at No. 1.

TOPLINE

- 9** Jay Z’s pioneering streaming service Tidal launches with 16 artists and a lot of questions.
- 11** The first hit from Lyor Cohen’s 300? Fetty Wap’s “Trap Queen.”

7 DAYS ON THE SCENE

- 18 Parties** Miami Music Week: Red Bull Guest House, Ultra and more!

THE BEAT

- 23** Death Cab for Cutie’s Ben Gibbard opens up about heartbreak’s role in writing new album *Kintsugi*.
- 25** Wale talks substance abuse (“There’s

a pill for everything”) and feeling slighted by the industry.

STYLE

- 29** No drab camo here! Yellow punches up spring’s uniform trend. Plus: chic Stockholm export Say Lou Lou.

REVIEWS

- 43** Shawn Mendes, Sufjan Stevens, Ludacris and a Q&A with The-Dream.

CHARTS

- 46** Little Big Town’s “Girl Crush” spurs big gains for the country band.
- 48 Charts**
- 64** *Coda* In 2000, ’N Sync’s *No Strings Attached* sold 2.4 million copies in its first week.

Sisters Elektra (left) and Miranda Kilbey of Say Lou Lou photographed March 9 in Stockholm.



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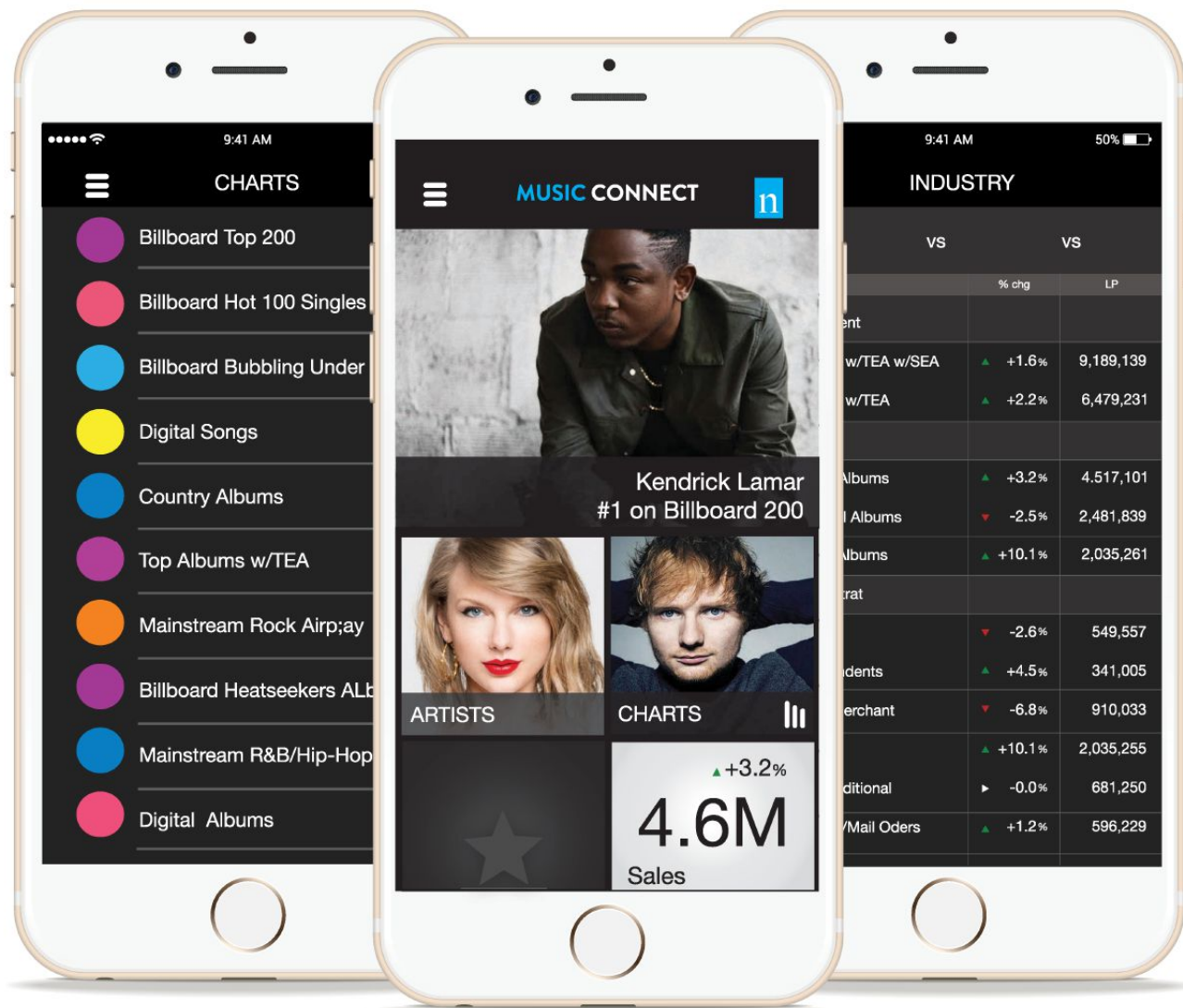
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From left: Jay Z, Beyoncé and Arcade Fire's Win Butler backstage at the Tidal launch event on March 30. Jay Z's successful \$56 million bid for Tidal parent Aspiro helped the stock delist on Nasdaq Stockholm three days later.

TIDAL'S STORMY START

EVEN WITH 16 SUPERSTAR ARTISTS SIGNED ON AS EQUITY PARTNERS, JAY Z'S NEW STREAMING SERVICE PLAYED DEFENSE POST-LAUNCH

BY ANDREW HAMPP

M

MOMENTS BEFORE JAY Z AND 15 other superstar artists took the stage in a studio behind New York's James A. Farley Post Office in Herald Square to unveil plans for Tidal, a relaunch of the Swedish streaming music service, no one seemed more confused than the artists themselves.

Densely packed into a single green room, the group was given instructions to line up in alphabetical order, "like in grade school," remarked an observer, with **Deadmau5** swapped out of line at the last minute to appear next to **Madonna** and avoid a helmet clash with fellow dance act **Daft Punk**. Nearby, **Beyoncé**

asked, "I'm not going to be with my husband?"

Minutes later, more than 350,000 people tuned in to a live stream to hear the news about "a moment that will forever change the course of music history," as **Alicia Keys** read from an artist-penned manifesto. But by the time it all wrapped 10 minutes later, with the likes of **Usher** and **Nicki Minaj** rushing out to catch flights, many questions remained. For starters, if 16 of music's biggest artists (**Rihanna**, **Jack White** and **Kanye West**, among others) are equity partners in a streaming service, how will other musicians benefit? And what will change in those artists' existing record contracts when it comes to releasing new material exclusively through the service? And where were acts like **Taylor Swift**, **Radiohead** and **Drake**, three of the most outspoken artists on digital music's shrinking value?

Early critics of Tidal have already cracked that it's "music's 1 percent" and an Illuminati-like exclusive club of already-rich artists seeking to benefit themselves. **Vania Schlogel**, chief investment officer at Roc Nation and Tidal's main industry liaison, maintains, "If anything, it's the opposite of that ... We have been developing a program to foster the careers of independent and emerging artists — that's very important to the founding artists." Schlogel later noted in a Q&A with New York University that the program will include stock appreciation rights, which would give independent artists an opportunity to obtain equity.

Tidal is, in part, a response to the industry's frustration of low royalty payouts from a free on-demand service like Spotify, which pays artists an average of \$4,700 for every 1 million streams of a master recording, according to *Billboard*

THE OVER UNDER



Jody Gerson's first signing as chief of Universal Publishing is (literally) a big one: buzzing 6-foot-7 singer **Tobias Jesso Jr.**



Jamie Foxx's jokes about **Bruce Jenner** fall flat at the iHeartRadio Awards, while his "You Changed Me" is off to a lukewarm start.



The **Scooter Braun**-repped **Ariana Grande**, **Martin Garrix** and **Justin Bieber** make a splash at EDM's **Ultra Music Festival**.

estimates. Schlogel declined to provide specifics on Tidal's rates, only to say that artists will be "paid multiples higher than other free services on a per-stream basis."

Standing out in an increasingly crowded pack of on-demand audio players (Deezer, Rdio, Xbox Music, Rhapsody), as well as video services like YouTube's forthcoming Music Key and the just-launched Vessel, also will be a core challenge for Tidal. Negotiations are already underway for exclusive streaming windows from the participating artists and beyond, including Daft Punk (the duo's hard-to-find short film *Electroma* was available only on Tidal at launch) and Rihanna (her new single "Bitch Better Have My Money" is currently only streaming on Tidal). Beyond that, however, little will be different. "Nothing changes about their [existing] contracts," says Schlogel. "We're working alongside the labels, we're not looking to try and pick fights." Adds Warner Music Group COO **Rob Wiesen**thal, "It has been proven that fans will pay for early access to great experiences."

But a battle has already begun behind the scenes ahead of **Jimmy Iovine**'s planned relaunch of Apple's Beats Music, expected to debut in June as a paid-only service. Sources confirm that artists including Drake and **Pharrell Williams** are in talks to be involved with the Beats relaunch in some capacity, which may explain why a few obvious names were missing from the Tidal press conference.

Without naming specifics, Jay Z acknowledged a bidding war with Iovine in a March 27 interview with *Billboard*. "I don't have to lose in order for you guys to win, let's just remember that," said the 45-year-old rapper. Still, one senior music executive profers that Tidal missed its real target: free. "Those artists should have been up there saying, 'Mr. **Daniel Ek**! Mr. **Larry Page**! Take that music down!'" says the insider, referring to Spotify CEO Ek and Google CEO Page. "Like **Ronald Reagan**, 'Bring the wall down!' That's what you should use those 16 musicians for." ●

213M
Albums sold in the
United States by
Tidal's 16 equity
partners since 1991.
SOURCE: NIELSEN MUSIC



What's Kelly Clarkson Worth?

Emerging from *American Idol*'s shadow after 13 years, the show's inaugural winner — now a free agent — looks to a new and more lucrative recording contract

BY MELINDA NEWMAN

KELLY CLARKSON HAS NOTCHED another *American Idol* first. Arguably the biggest star to emerge from the Fox show (she's tied with **Carrie Underwood** at three No. 1 albums), Clarkson is the first alum to fulfill the recording contract she won in 2002. And with the release of her seventh studio album, *Piece by Piece*, on RCA (it debuted at No. 1 the week ending March 8 with 97,000 track-equivalent albums, according to Nielsen Music), she's now a free agent who could command a hefty new deal.

So where will the pop star, who has notched 10 top 10 hits and sold 13 million albums, end up? Sources tell *Billboard* Clarkson is in early talks to directly sign with Sony Music's RCA, as opposed to her current structure that goes through *Idol*'s recording arm, 19 Recordings. (It's worth noting that advances for *Idol* grads have dropped dramatically. Today, a winner's advance could be as low as \$100,000. Three years ago, an *Idol* champ commanded \$250,000, and back when Clarkson won, \$500,000 or more — \$650,000 when adjusted for inflation.)

What might Clarkson fetch today? Between \$1 million and \$3 million per album, depending on terms, say insiders, with skeptics pointing to the lower end of the scale due to the singer's age (almost 33) and already mature career. And while normally the incumbent label holds a home-field advantage because it has the artist's catalog, in Clarkson's case, it comes with some heavy baggage.

In 2007, Clarkson and then-Sony BMG head **Clive Davis** clashed in a bitter public feud over the direction of her dark album *My December*. Coming off her biggest hit, 2004's **Dr. Luke**- and **Max Martin**-helmed "Since U Been Gone," Davis felt the album wasn't commercial enough, in part because Clarkson wrote most of it herself. Clarkson would later say that Davis "told me verbatim that I was a 'shitty writer' ... and how I should just shut up and sing." (Davis currently holds the title of chief creative officer at Sony Music, which owns RCA.)

A number of sources speculate that if Clarkson doesn't re-sign with RCA, Big Machine Label Group could be a leading contender for several reasons: Its pop success with **Taylor Swift** (aided by Universal's Republic Records) has proved the Nashville-based shop can work both pop and country, and Clarkson has stated her desire to make a country album; BMLG president/CEO **Scott Borchetta** is now a mentor on *Idol* (which partnered with Universal Music in 2010); and, on a personal note, Clarkson's mother-in-law, **Reba McEntire**, is very close to Borchetta and recently signed to his new Nash Icon label. (Clarkson's manager, **Narvel Blackstock**, is McEntire's husband; Clarkson is married to his son, **Brandon**.) Borchetta and RCA declined to comment, but Blackstock tells *Billboard*, "We love the team at RCA. They're great to work with." Still, when asked if Clarkson planned to re-sign with RCA, he adds that it's too soon to say. "She hasn't focused on it. Her new album just came out." ●

Fetty Wap: 300's First Hit

"Trap Queen" vaults the New Jersey rapper — and Lyor Cohen's label — into the Hot 100 top 10

BY ANDREW HAMPP and GAIL MITCHELL

Nearly 18 months after its launch, **Lyor Cohen's** 300 Entertainment has its first full-fledged hit with rap newcomer **Fetty Wap's** hard-charging single, "Trap Queen."

The giddy rap anthem — which pays affectionate homage to the 24-year-old's faithful ex — is No. 6 on the Billboard Hot 100 after entering the tally's top 10 on March 28. Having topped the Hot Rap Songs chart, "Trap Queen" holds down the No. 2 slot on Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs. The single has sold 502,000 units, according to Nielsen Music, and racked up more than 30 million video views on YouTube.

Fueling the track's trajectory: South by Southwest showcases presented by *Rolling Stone*, Samsung and Fool's Gold; remixes from **Rick Ross**, **Fabulous** and **French Montana**; and co-signs from **Kanye West** and **Rihanna**, along with an early one from **Bobby Shmurda** in October 2014. The first major push behind "Trap Queen," however, came in November when Atlantic-distributed 300 partnered with Fetty Wap's label, RGF Productions.

300 co-founder **Todd Moscovitz** points to successful starts with hip-hop acts **Migos** and **Young Thug**, but

acknowledges that "Trap Queen" is "the fastest-growing single we've had in terms of sales."

Fetty Wap (real name: **Willie Maxwell**), a Paterson, N.J., native and member of the **Remy Boyz 1738** rap troupe, originally uploaded "Trap Queen" to SoundCloud in March 2014. After being revised into a radio version, the RGF track was out

for six months prior to 300's involvement. Moscovitz credits WQHT New York DJ **Funkmaster Flex** for first championing the single in December. Soon, thanks to a boost from YouTube's

INDMusic, the video began to take off. Says Moscovitz, "The minute we got it on radio, TV and blogs, the record did the rest of the work."

300 plans to release another Fetty Wap single this spring followed tentatively by a debut album in the fall. But first, "Trap Queen" must run its course. "300 was started just over a year ago," says Cohen, "and to have an artist like Fetty make the impact he's making is a testament that if we find the right artists, great things will happen to our label." ●



Cohen



KIDZ BOP'S BIG GAMBLE

Facing flagging sales, the brand doubles down by expanding from two albums a year to four — will tots follow?

BY ED CHRISTMAN

Kidz Bop compilations have sold 15.4 million albums and 4.3 million tracks since the franchise launched in 2001. But in 2014, sales dipped to 848,000 from 1.1 million in 2013, according to Nielsen Music — and in October, parent company Razor & Tie bought back the 50 percent stake it sold to a private equity firm in 2006. The brand is looking for a boost by doubling its annual release schedule from two albums to four. *Billboard* spoke with COO **Vic Zaraya** to get schooled on the strategy.

Will putting more *Kidz Bop* releases in the market help keep the brand fresh, or oversaturate?

Kidz Bop is not just about the CD release. It's a brand we market year-round. We switched to four releases a year, but that's not all we're doing: We're expanding the touring — last year we did 50 dates — and making plans to expand internationally. That, plus expanding our marketing budgets, will drive streaming as well as catalog sales, and help our brand partnerships and touring.

How does the brand perform in the digital space?

We sell a lot of track downloads [656,000 in 2014, down from 743,000 in 2013] and get a lot of revenue from streaming. If you go to iTunes, the tracks that sell well are the most current ones, but our catalog tracks are selling too. Also, we have our SiriusXM channel, and YouTube is a big initiative for us.

Will the brand ever grow stale?

There will always be new music to cover, and kids will always like music. As long as we keep it fresh and don't let our commercials get stale, it should keep going. ●

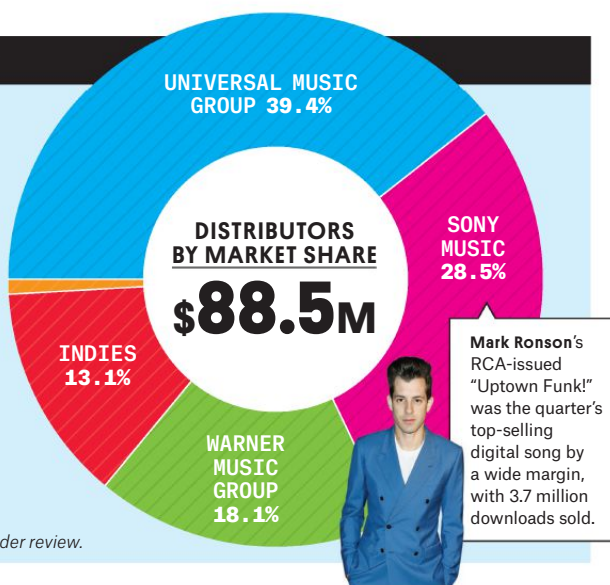
NIELSEN MUSIC FIRST-QUARTER REPORT

COLD COMFORT

These days, a 1.8 percent drop in album sales is actually good news

After 2014's 11.2 percent drop in album sales, the 1.8 percent dip in first-quarter 2015 (to 60.6 million) feels like good news — even though the top-selling album, **Taylor Swift's** 1989, didn't even break a million: It moved 949,000 units. Digital album sales also posted a gain, rising 2.8 percent to 28.7 million (after 2014's 9.4 percent drop), due in part to a bump from **Drake's** digital-only *If You're Reading This It's Too Late*. —ED CHRISTMAN

*The orange slice represents the 0.9 percent of the total still under review.



Mark Ronson's RCA-issued "Uptown Funk!" was the quarter's top-selling digital song by a wide margin, with 3.7 million downloads sold.



Kids singing top 40 hits has been a winning strategy for 14 years — are fans bopped out?



"You can't have a more eclectic group of people than our staff," says Navin, photographed March 26 at The Orchard's New York headquarters. "These people would not hang out with each other if they met randomly outside of these walls, and yet now it's like a pack of wolves."

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CEO, THE ORCHARD

Brad Navin

The indie distribution chief on the perils of streaming, expanding into film and what changes with Sony's \$200 million acquisition

BY HARLEY BROWN
PHOTOGRAPHED BY GUERIN BLASK

WHEN DISTRIBUTOR AND marketing house The Orchard spent \$4 million at the 2015 Sundance Film Festival to outbid competitors for the quirky romantic comedy *The Overnight*, executive producers **Jay** and **Mark Duplass** compared the company to their own career ethos of "doing things our way." Said Mark Duplass: "The Orchard is a group of young, smart pioneers who blew us away with their bold, passionate approach to taking this film into the world."

It's a statement that CEO **Brad Navin**, 44, takes to heart as the company celebrates its 18th year in business and a just-closed deal with Sony Music, which first invested in The Orchard in 2012 and acquired the rest of the company for \$200 million in mid-March. Chief among the innovations he has helped introduce are digital initiatives that allow clients (which include Daptone and Frenchkiss

NAVIN'S CV

1995-1997
AGENT/ASSISTANT
ARTISTS & AUDIENCE
ENTERTAINMENT

1997-1999
ARTIST MANAGER
INVASION GROUP

1999-2003
VP MUSIC AND
PROGRAMMING
DIGITAL CLUB
NETWORK

2003-2009
EXECUTIVE VP/GM
THE ORCHARD

2009-PRESENT
CEO
THE ORCHARD

Records among more than 2,000 distributed labels) full transparency of the company's transactions as well as third-party access to The Orchard's roster.

Navin, a native of New York state's Hudson Valley and father of three young children, worked as an agent and manager before he found his niche at the intersection of music and technology at former Irving Plaza owner **Andrew Rasiej**'s Digital Club Network in 1999. In 2003, he moved on to The Orchard, then housed in a ramshackle building on — naturally enough — Orchard Street in Manhattan's Lower East Side. Today, the company is headquartered in a capacious two-floor office in the East Village where 200 of its 250 staff members are based (50 percent of The Orchard's business comes from outside the United States). Decorated with a personalized, pun-filled drawing of a monkey by iconic underground singer-songwriter **Daniel**

Johnston, Navin's office serves as a minimalist idea hub and sanctuary.

Distribution isn't the sexiest of music industry sectors. What is it about The Orchard that attracts creatives?

We have a level of services that I don't think anybody can touch. Orchard clients can walk through our product and engineering department — which has a stage in it — then go into a full-blown recording studio, then talk data in another room — all on one floor.

What opportunities come out of the Sony deal, and how does The Orchard fit into such a large multinational corporation that already owns an independent distribution company?

The intention is for us to be a wholly owned subsidiary. We've been handling digital fulfillment for Red [Sony's indie distributor] for a few years now, and a lot of



international Sony offices have been putting film and music through us for a couple of years. The opportunity is to continue as a stand-alone business with more continuity on more content coming through, and helping to solve some of their supply-chain or territory-by-territory issues, because ours was built from the ground up around digital. We can help bring music and other products to market in a streamlined way, where they can still control it and do what they do as Sony Music.

How has streaming affected your business model, especially now that you're moving into film distribution?

Putting it simply, [these days] it's natural for consumers to listen and get exposed to more music but then not think about paying 99 cents or \$1.29 for it. In streaming models, we see the independent sector and our share being much stronger than in downloading models, because consumers will dive deeper and listen to more repertoire. We want to be a good partner and deliver as much as we can, while negotiating the best rates and deals, and protecting our client's assets in the marketplace.

When signing labels and bringing on films, what do you look for?

With labels, are they going to grow their business with us — like catalog labels that haven't put out a new record in 30 years but have 30,000 tracks. On the film side, it's really about new films and setting them up months and months in advance of their releases. If we just stick to distribution, we can pick up high-quality, finished, scripted-with-talent films to represent and release.

What percentage of your revenue is music versus video, and do you anticipate that will change?

It's 90 percent music. If it didn't change, we wouldn't be in the business. Video crosses a lot of lines because of YouTube, and on the film/TV side of the business, we formalized it more this past year ...

“With streaming, the independent sector is much stronger, because consumers will dive deeper and listen to more.”

I want to bring more continuity: In the action sports category, can we put some booming track into one of our films, and could the filmmakers help bring music they want into The Orchard for distribution? That's a real opportunity.

What other niche areas are you identifying for future growth?

RoyaltyShare, the royalties processing business we just announced. We want to turn the data we're getting from retailers into usable, accessible business intelligence to help empower our independent labels and film clients to work in conjunction with us to drive marketing and sales opportunities.

How did you first get into the music industry?

I was sitting in a pre-law class, still an undergraduate at Loyola in Maryland, and I came across a *Pollstar* agency guide — the kid next to me had it because his father was in the business. I was like, “What is this? All the bands I love are listed in here, and these people represent them?” So I found out about agent training programs — also known as the mailroom — and I interviewed for all three of the agencies that mattered back then: ICM, Creative

Artists Agency and the one I ended up working for, William Morris. I worked for [agent] **Cara Lewis** — she's massive in the hip-hop world and an absolute shark. She was great and taught me a lot, but it wasn't music that I wanted to work around. Later I went to [a management company] called Invasion Group and learned that I'm not built to talk to artists every day.

In the internal staff memo announcing the Sony deal, you said it would be “business as usual.” Does nothing really change?

Nothing changes from a staffing perspective. The conversations are really about things like, “How do you shore up opportunities around a health-care and benefits package with a large multinational company like Sony?” We've got a small finance and data analytics team; they've got a larger one. But we're going to continue to sign labels and films.

What's the biggest challenge facing the music industry today?

It has been the same thing for a long time: We're still in a format change, and generally speaking, consumers are still confused about it. We haven't ever lived in such an aggressive period of technology advancement impacting how consumers listen, and once paid consumption hits critical mass, we won't be talking about an industry that's being challenged by that as much. There will be a *new* challenge. As for what that is, that's a Nostradamus question. If it's still streaming in 20 years, we'll all be packing it up, I guess. ●



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1 “This Oculus headset was a gift from Brain Farm, one of our action sports clients,” says Navin. “Watching video through them is the most insane, immersive experience.” 2 “The recurring comment [about The Beatles figurines] is, ‘You’re not supposed to take them out of the box!’ I’m like, ‘I’m not a freaky collector. We can actually play with them.’” 3 “That’s original art by Daniel Johnston. People who don’t know who he is think it’s one of my kids’ pieces of art.”

Data Mining The Digital Gold Rush: 4 COMPANIES THAT GET IT

Taking the guesswork out of finding and promoting hits has never been easier thanks to “Big Data” analytical tools and real-time insights — and the global music industry is listening

BY ROBERT LEVINE

FOR DECADES, THE MUSIC business ran largely on instinct: magic ears, gut feelings, weird hunches.

Success had a thousand fathers, as well as a certain mystery. Label executives knew a hit when they heard one, and they promoted it until the public agreed — or not.

Sometimes, data helped. By the early 1990s, Atlantic Records had a research team calling independent retailers to ask which local artists were selling well. In 1993, an assistant named **Scott Schiff** discovered that an unknown band was out-selling superstars in certain South Carolina stores. As the story goes, Atlantic A&R executives didn’t like the album, but then-co-chairman **Doug Morris** overruled his lieutenants to sign the band — **Hootie & The Blowfish**. It went on to sell more than 10 million copies of its major-label debut.

These days, calling stores to ask about CD sales is as archaic as the idea of an album that sells 10 million copies. The industry is now in the age of “Big Data” — the information generated by digital platforms like Spotify and Twitter, and the tools to analyze it for insights. Label execs and managers can see what songs perform on streaming services, as

well as what audiences those songs resonate with, what other music fans of a particular song listen to and even where songs fit into listening patterns — not to mention where potential fans live and what kinds of concerts they attend.

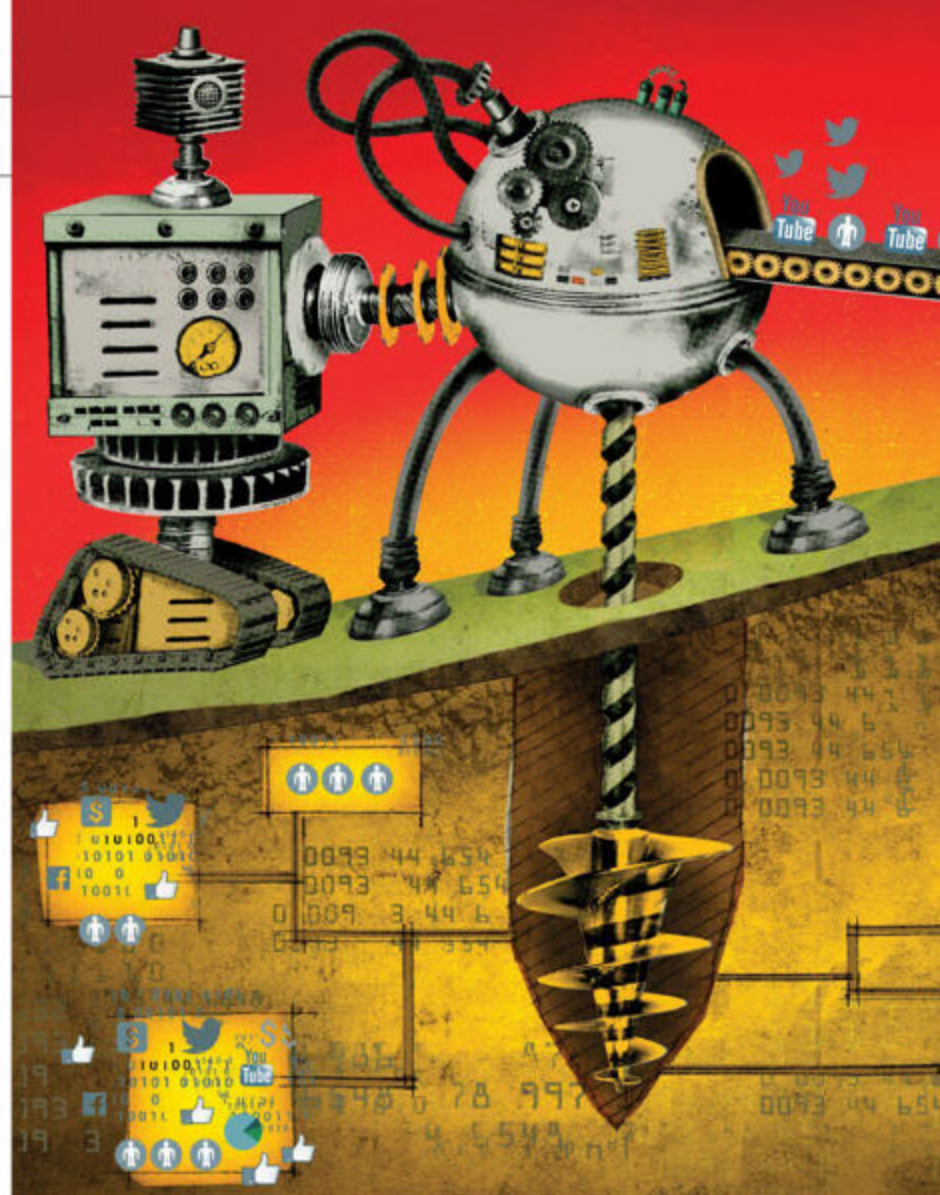
“We’re not approaching it in the traditional music industry way: ‘This is a hit and I goddamn know it,’” says **Alex White**, CEO/co-founder of Next Big Sound, a company that uses data from Spotify, social media and other sources to help labels, managers and brands navigate the music business. “Now that we can track every song on Spotify and YouTube, it’s a Bayesian probabilistic world, where we can say that 75 percent of the time when we see the momentum you’re seeing, this artist will sell a million within a year — and we can update that on a daily basis.”

The music business of the future may require some new vocabulary: “Bayesian probability,” named for 18th century mathematician Thomas Bayes, is a concept in logic, not a prog-rock act. (Although it wouldn’t be a bad name for one.) Here are four companies that are already fluent — and rely on more than their instincts. We have a hunch they’re on to something.



FACEBOOK FAVE

Fall Out Boy’s fans are more likely to purchase a T-shirt promoted on Facebook or Twitter than YouTube, Next Big Sound revealed.



1 NEXT BIG SOUND Big Idea

In 2009, when its founders were finishing Northwestern University, Next Big Sound ran a website that let users look at different measures of musician popularity and predict which acts would make it big. There was only one problem, according to White: “There was no way to make money doing that.” So he and co-founders **Samir Rayani** and **David Hoffman** decided to go into the data business. Now, Next Big Sound tracks Facebook likes, Twitter mentions, YouTube and Vevo views, website traffic, Spotify data and other measures of popularity in an onscreen “dashboard.” (It licenses social media and digital chart data to *Billboard*.) Much of the value of the New York-based company’s services lies in how it tracks different information streams in real time to measure how Twitter mentions lead to website traffic, for example.

Big Success

Next Big Sound makes most of its data available as free tools and focuses on major clients: the Universal and Sony labels, big management companies and brands. (White declines to say whether the

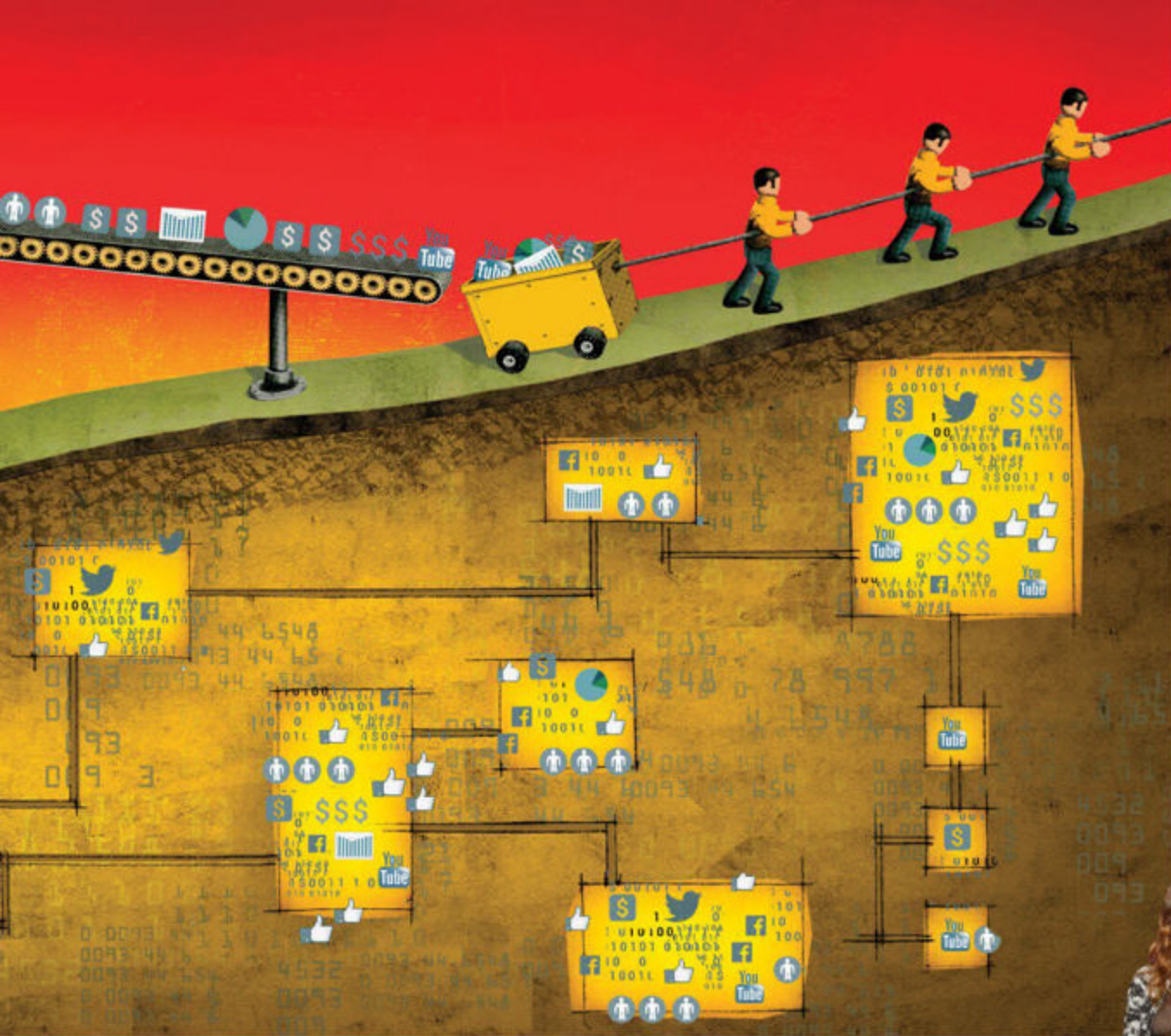
company, which has 22 employees, is profitable.) **Stu Smith**, who introduced White to music executives when he worked at Red Light Management, now uses the service as head of music partnerships at Teespring, an Internet company that lets users design and sell clothing. Based on information from Next Big Sound, he recently advised **Fall Out Boy** to promote a Teespring T-shirt project on Facebook and Twitter, rather than YouTube.

Big Insight

“It’s not unlike the mental model a lot of music executives have, where they say they should be doing *this* by a certain time after the release,” says White. “But when you track the data on a daily basis, it’s not alchemy — it’s a very measured series of promotion and marketing events at different stages.”

2 HOUSE OF BLUES ENTERTAINMENT Big Idea

The small-venue division of Live Nation set up its Ones to Watch program to promote developing-act tours in a way that many labels no longer can — and data is key to every step of the process.



and meaning,” says Gathercole, “to better put our content out in the world.”

4 THE ECHO NEST AT SPOTIFY

Big Idea

Even by the standards of big data, the Somerville, Mass.-based Echo Nest operates on a massive scale: Its database includes more than 36 million songs, categorized with data points ranging from pitch and tempo to mood and danceability. The company was founded in 2005 at MIT’s Media Lab by **Tristan Jehan** and **Brian Whitman**, who wanted to find a better way to understand music than the affinity model used by most online companies, which assumes that users who like some of the same

music share the same tastes.

To that end, it analyzes audio “fingerprints” and crawls the Web for information about music, including reviews, blogs and social

media postings. The company started by licensing its data and development tools to online music companies, but it also has become something of a skunkworks for

Spotify, which bought it in 2014 for a reported \$100 million.

Big Success

“We can identify a ‘cluster’ where you’re listening to the same kinds of songs at different times every week and identify a commonality there,” says **Jim Lucchese**, CEO of The Echo Nest at Spotify. In other words, Spotify knows if you’ve been going to the gym.

Big Insight

The next step is “situational play-listing” — using The Echo Nest’s understanding of music and users to figure out what a listener wants to hear at a given moment. (Like almost everything The Echo Nest does, it will be invisible to Spotify users.) “We want to connect the right playlist to the right listener at the right moment,” says Lucchese. “We’re putting those pieces together now.”

Big Success

In 2012, after the country-rock band **Blackberry Smoke** played St. Andrews Hall in Detroit on a Ones to Watch tour, manager **Trey Wilson** sat down to look at how far fans drove to get there. House of Blues was able to provide more data about the group’s audience than he had ever seen before — including which audiences are most inclined to see the band, where they live and what kind of marketing they respond to. On its next tour, Blackberry Smoke played Flint, Mich., drawing some fans from Detroit, as well as a few other markets suggested by House of Blues’ data.

Big Insight

House of Blues uses an algorithm to pick “affinity artists” whose fans might appreciate a Ones to Watch act. (In the case of Blackberry Smoke, it chose the **Zac Brown Band**, **ZZ Top** and **Lynyrd Skynyrd**, among others.) Then it identifies fans who have purchased tickets to concerts by those artists and sends them an email

about the upcoming Ones to Watch show — along with a discount offer. “We mine data to sell more tickets and get bands more exposure,” says House of Blues COO **Ben Weeden**.

3 UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP

Big Idea

Like Next Big Sound, Universal Music Group’s Artist Portal lets users customize and compare data. It also offers remarkably specific insights into Spotify usage — not only how many times a song streams, but what kinds of people are streaming it, what else is on those listeners’ playlists and how specific songs resonate with certain audiences. (Managers of Universal acts also can see this data for their clients.) “Once

something is on Spotify, it’s a big experiment,” says **Paul Gathercole**, Universal Music vp digital tools.

Big Success

Looking at UMG’s Artist Portal in 2014, Universal Sweden digital strategy manager

Ankit Desai saw that Swedish singer-songwriter **Tove Lo** had a following of fans who generally listened to alternative rock in France and the Netherlands. In

her home country, though, Tove Lo seemed to attract fans who generally listened to electronic music; the **Hipster Sabotage** remix of “Habits (Stay High)” accounted for about 70 percent of her streams there. Desai took this information to the artist’s A&R team — “it was part of the conversation,” he says — which decided to market her more to EDM fans and focus on promoting tracks that would appeal to them, like her vocal appearance on **Alesso**’s “Heroes (We Could Be),” which became a No. 5 hit in Sweden.

Big Insight

“The data itself isn’t the challenge,” says Gathercole. “The challenge is, how does an organization gear up to make the most of it?” To that end, Universal Music has a 16-person team devoted to improving the Artist Portal and interpreting the information it offers. “Then you can look for patterns, correlation

EMBRACED EDM

Universal Sweden honed in on a remix of Tove Lo’s “Habits” by brother duo **Hipster Sabotage** indicating that the song resonated with EDM fans.



FAN FOCUS

House of Blues’ data-driven promotion helped **Blackberry Smoke** know where its fans were — and book its next tour accordingly.

Artist Portal in 2014, Universal Sweden digital strategy manager

SOUNDS *of* HOLLYWOOD

The Business of Music in TV & Film



'I'm The Joke'

Beastie Boy Adam Horovitz plays a middle-aged voice of reason in *While We're Young*: "I tell Ben Stiller's character, 'Nobody wants to see the old guy at the club.' That's kind of how I feel in real life"

BY ALEX GALE

THREE DECADES AGO, AS ONE OF THE BEASTIE BOYS, Adam "Ad-Rock" Horovitz was exhorting for his right to party. In 2015, he's the voice of adult responsibility — or at least he is in *While We're Young*, the new Noah Baumbach film that pulled an impressive \$227,000 gross in just four theaters the weekend of March 27 (and opens nationwide April 10). In the movie, Horovitz, 48, plays the rational best friend to Ben Stiller and Naomi Watts, who star as 40-somethings smitten by a younger couple (Adam Driver, Amanda Seyfried) and begin haplessly mimicking their carefree, trendy ways. In recent months, Horovitz also has been working on a Beastie Boys memoir with bandmate Michael "Mike D" Diamond, and figuring out their next musical move.

How did you get involved with the movie?

I know Noah Baumbach from a long time ago. We were hanging out one night, and he asked if I wanted to be in his movie. If somebody whose stuff you really like says, "Hey, you want to do it with me?," you got to do it. I would like to say that I get these offers all the time, but I don't.

It's kind of hilarious to watch a Beastie Boy be the proponent of maturity in the movie.

In a way, I'm the joke. It's a funny nuance of it — this guy in a band who 25 years ago was known to be this wild and crazy dude and now I'm a grown-up. I'm telling Ben Stiller's character, "Don't follow trends — nobody wants to see the old guy at the club." That's kind of how I feel in real life: I'm not trying to do whatever is popular. I don't even *know* what is popular.

Speaking of what's popular, what do you think about Iggy Azalea? Like the Beastie Boys initially were, she has been criticized for cultural appropriation.

Well, everybody wants to be a rapper — even country musicians. But I don't know — it's not like I actually listen to Iggy Azalea, so I can't really comment. I heard one song and she sounded like a bad version of [1990s female rapper] Da Brat. ○

The Sting Of Success

Police guitarist Andy Summers exposes the good, bad and ugly in the doc *Can't Stand Losing You: Surviving The Police*



The blinding burn to stardom of punk threesome-turned-pop hitmakers **The Police** included five albums in five years and nonstop touring from 1978 to 1984. With that success came drama chronicled by guitarist **Andy Summers** in his 2007 memoir, *One Train Later*. Now the film version, *Can't Stand Losing You: Surviving The Police*, is getting a stateside release through Cinema Libre on April 3.

Helmed by veteran film editor **Andy Grieve**, the documentary could have just as easily been called *Can't Stand Losing Sting*, as Summers, 72, spends much of his time worried the Police frontman would go solo. "Fairly early, the press pulled him out — this great-looking young guy with a great voice in the hot rock band," Summers tells *Billboard*.

Throughout the group's career, there were scuffles between **Sting** and drummer **Stewart Copeland** (one in which Sting broke a rib), as well as a profanity-laced berating of Summers in the studio. And while the doc was executive-produced by Summers and is very much his show (neither of his Police bandmates participated), the guitarist hardly considers himself beyond reproach. Asked what he learned about himself, he replies, "That I really am an asshole." —JORDAN RIEFE

A FREE ALBUM, A PLUG FROM PRINCE AND A LEGAL FRACAS

Judith Hill's debut LP spawns lawsuits with former label

Judith Hill has made high-profile appearances in **Michael Jackson's** *This Is It*, the documentary *20 Feet From Stardom* and NBC's *The Voice*. But it took a little help from **Prince** to release her first LP, *Back in Time*, on March 23 as a 48-hour free download sent to Live Nation's email list.

The album was funded by Prince to help promote a forthcoming Live Nation-backed tour featuring Hill, and was downloaded more than 50,000 times in its first 24 hours, according to Hill's reps. But it's also the focus of a heated legal battle between Hill and her former label Cherry

Party, founded by music executive **Jolene Cherry**.

On March 25, Hill, 31, filed a complaint against Cherry, The Cherry Party and Jolene Holdings in New York's Supreme Court alleging that the Sony-distributed imprint "proved to be incompetent, erratic, unstable and wholly unable to perform [its] obligations." Cherry responded with a March 27 lawsuit against Prince, accusing him of "tortiously interfering"

with an exclusive recording agreement that Hill signed with Sony and The Cherry Party in 2013. Sony was not a party to either lawsuit. Reps for Prince and Live Nation had not responded to requests for comment at press time.

"It has been a long time coming for my first record," Hill tells *Billboard*. "I love what we did with Live Nation as an unconventional way to declare freedom and get the music out." —ANDREW HAMPP





Lennon

NOTED

03-26

Willie Nelson launched a new brand of marijuana, with plans to open dispensaries under the name "Willie's Reserve." Veteran hemp lobbyist **Michael Bowman** is assisting in the effort.



Nelson

03-27

Former *Billboard* publisher **Tommy Page** joined Cumulus Media as senior vp brand partnerships. He previously was a vp at Pandora.

The Madison Square Garden Company filed an initial Form 10 registration statement with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission to split into two publicly traded companies.

Uchenna Agini, rapper **Lil Durk**'s manager, was shot and killed outside of a restaurant in Chicago. At press time, no one had been charged with the crime. He was 24.

Gustavo Dudamel extended his contract as musical director of the Los Angeles

Philharmonic through the 2021-22 season. Dudamel also will take on the role of artistic director.

The Grammy Museum announced plans to open a Grammy Gallery in Nashville this August, located in the Musicians Hall of Fame and Museum at the Municipal Auditorium.

Gene Simmons partnered with WWE Studios on a three-film co-production deal under the banner Erebus Pictures.

Ozzy Osbourne canceled the Mexican leg of his Ozzfest tour, set for May 27-31 in Riviera Maya, to undergo an unspecified surgery.

BMG inked a wide-ranging digital distribution deal with China-based Internet giant Alibaba. Under the pact, Alibaba Group's digital entertainment arm will promote BMG writers and artists through the streaming apps Xiami and TTPod, giving Alibaba digital rights to more than 2.5 million copyrights.

Scott Weiland & The Wildabouts lead guitarist

03-31

Jeremy Brown died of unknown causes at his home in Venice Beach, Calif. He was 34.

Sacks & Co. in Nashville named **Asha Goodman** vp.

Publicist **Tony Ferguson** and his wife, entertainment journalist **Courtney Wills**, welcomed daughter **Avery Rose** in Los Angeles; she weighed 8 lbs., 8 oz.

Agent **Jon Ollier** joined Creative Artists Agency in its London office.

Havas Media Group appointed **Damien Marchi** global head of content.

Doug Mark's Mark Music & Media Law partnered with music lawyer **Elizabeth Gregory** to spearhead a Nashville office.

Cynthia Lennon, wife of **John Lennon** from 1962 to 1968 and mother to **Julian Lennon**, died at her home in Mallorca, Spain, following a battle with cancer. She was 75.

John Loscalzo, a veteran of CBS Local, MTV, WXRK New York and others, died of causes that were unclear at press time. He was 52.

The American Association of Independent Music said VP Records co-founder **Pat Chin** will receive the lifetime achievement award at its Libera Awards in June.

Manager **Eric Podwall** signed the Grammy Award-winning producer **Dallas Austin**.

04-01

04-02



Avery Rose



Moore

BIRTHDAYS

April 6

Warren Haynes (55)
Merle Haggard (78)

April 7

John Oates (66)

April 8

Biz Markie (51)

April 9

Jesse McCartney (28)
Albert Hammond Jr. (35)

Gerard Way (38)

April 10

Mandy Moore (31)

Q-Tip (45)

Brian Setzer (56)

April 11

Joss Stone (28)

April 12

David Cassidy (65)



7
DAYS
on the
SCENE



From left: Charlie Aponte, Carlos Vives, Oscar D'Leon, Jose Alberto and Marc Anthony danced salsa at BMI's 22nd annual Latin Music Awards held at the Fontainebleau hotel in Miami Beach on March 31.



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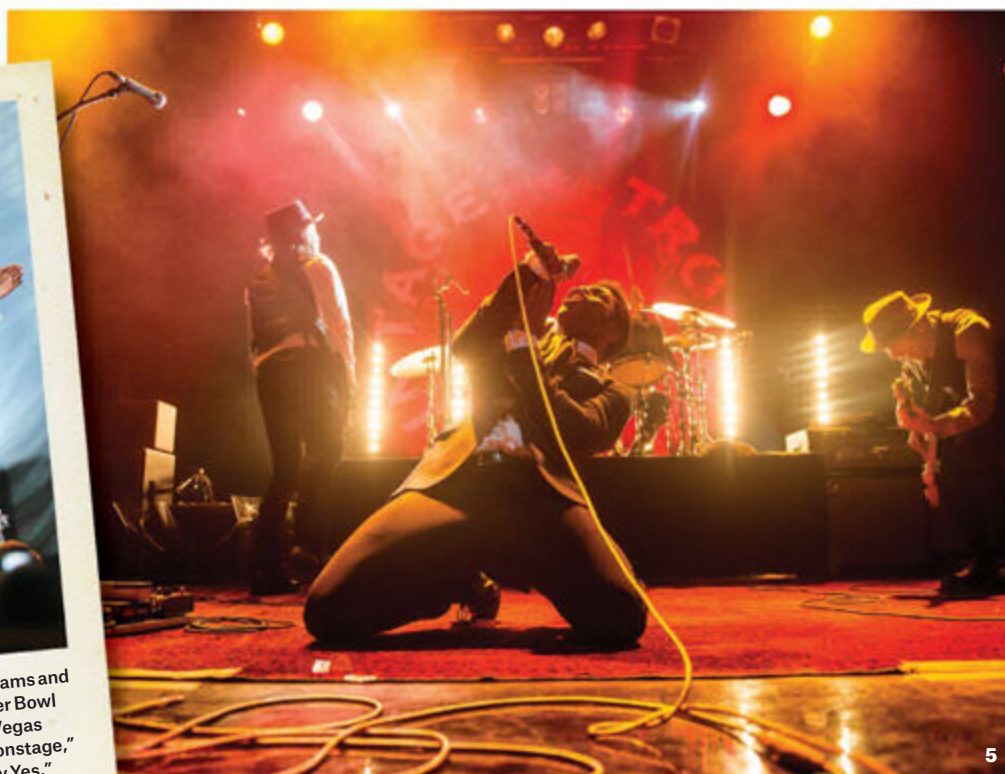


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1 Alt-J vocalist-guitarist Joe Newman at the group's sold-out concert at Madison Square Garden in New York on March 30. "It was an unforgettable night and felt like an important milestone in our journey as a band," keyboardist Gus Unger-Hamilton told *Billboard*. 2 Alicia Keys and Guy Oseary at the Tidal launch event #TIDALforALL in New York on March 30. 3 From left: Melissa Forde celebrated the launch of her M\$\$X WT collection at Opening Ceremony with friend Rihanna and designer Humberto Leon in New York on March 30. 4 Janelle Monáe and Antonio "L.A." Reid at the *Eephus* listening event held at New York's Avenue on March 25. 5 From left: Nalle Colt, Ty Taylor, Richard Danielson (on drums) and Rick Barrio Dill of Vintage Trouble onstage during the band's sold-out show at KOKO in London on March 31.



From left: Destiny's Child's Kelly Rowland, Michelle Williams and Beyoncé reunited for the first time since the 2013 Super Bowl to perform at the 30th annual Stellar Awards in Las Vegas on March 28. "I was so happy to have my sisters join me onstage," said Williams, who was nominated for her single "Say Yes."



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6 From left: Dr. Helene Gayle, Erykah Badu, Nadia Lopez, first lady Michelle Obama, Regina King, Tracee Ellis Ross, Beverly Bond, Debra Lee, Ava DuVernay and Cicely Tyson at BET's "Black Girls Rock!" at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark, N.J., on March 28. 7 From left: Kelly Clarkson, Blake Shelton and Reba McEntire at Muhammad Ali's Celebrity Fight Night XXI at the JW Marriott Phoenix Desert Ridge Resort & Spa in Scottsdale, Ariz., on March 28. 8 Cara Delevigne performed "CC the World" with Pharrell Williams at Karl Lagerfeld's Chanel Metiers d'Art presentation at New York's Park Avenue Armory on March 31. 9 Marina Diamandis of Marina & The Diamonds feted her *Froot* album release at Bowery Ballroom in New York on March 26.



Miami Music Week

MIAMI, MARCH 24-29

"MIAMI HAS ITS OWN STYLE ... ALL THE FREAKS BLASTING house music down Ocean Drive," quipped DJ **Guy Gerber** backstage at the Red Bull Guest House, an annual VIP-only artist showcase. "But I love the f—ing freaks; it's working." And clearly, with A-listers like **Lil Wayne**, **Ariana Grande**, **Diddy** and **Usher** descending upon South Beach to perform alongside **Skrillex**, **Avicii** and **Martin Garrix** at this year's Ultra Music Festival, the city and genre's appeal is more potent than ever. The EDM festival, which drew crowds of 50,000 fans daily and comparisons to Mardi Gras, capped off a weeklong series of industry conferences and around-the-clock pool parties as part of Miami Music Week. "It's becoming a hub for international labels and different types of artists who want to put their own spin on EDM," **Hudson Mohawke**, a frequent **Kanye West** collaborator, told *Billboard*. "It's like we did the retro-nostalgia thing, so we're all looking for what's next — something beyond what already exists." A prime example? New **Scoter Braun** client — and South Korean pop sensation — **CL**, who surprised audiences when she strutted onto the main stage to perform her hit "Dirty Vibe," co-produced by **Diplo**.

—MEGAN BUEGER





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1 Paul van Dyk during his set at the Bayfront Park Amphitheater on March 29. 2 Grande (right) joined Cashmere Cat for performances of "Be My Baby" and "Adore" at the Worldwide Stage on March 29. 3 Spank Rock (left) and Boyz Noize at the Red Bull Guest House on March 27. 4 Porter Robinson played the Live stage at the Bayfront Park Amphitheater on March 29. 5 From left: Diplo, Diddy, Skrillex and Justin Bieber after Skrillex's set at the Bayfront Park Amphitheater on March 28. 6 Alesso at Wall Lounge at the W South Beach on March 26. 7 Steve Aoki at the Dim Mak House on March 25. 8 Lil Wayne at the Red Bull Guest House on March 28. 9 Usher (right) and Garrix on Ultra's main stage at the Bayfront Park Amphitheater on March 28.

A full-page photograph of Carlos Santana performing on stage. He is wearing a white fedora with a gold and blue emblem, a white shirt with colorful graphic prints, and a brown leather vest with intricate carvings. He is playing a red electric guitar and singing with his mouth open. The background is dark with blue stage lighting.

billboard

**LATIN
MUSIC**

2015

CONFERENCE & AWARDS

**MIAMI
APRIL
27-30**

LEGENDS Q&A WITH CARLOS SANTANA

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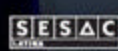
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BUCHANAN'S



BIG BOYS DO CRY

Ben Gibbard and sensitive rockers Death Cab for Cutie move on after his divorce from Zooey Deschanel — perfect fodder for a new album of the band's weepy, chart-topping songs

BY KEN PARTRIDGE

PHOTOGRAPHED BY JOSÉ MANDOJANA

The New Yorker

THE PULSE
OF MUSIC
RIGHT NOW



From left: Death Cab for Cutie's Gibbard, McGerr and Harmer photographed Feb. 27 at King's Hardware in Seattle. For an exclusive interview and behind-the-scenes video, go to Billboard.com or Billboard.com/ipad.

DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE FRONTMAN Ben Gibbard is ready for some tough questions. On March 31, the Seattle indie-rock institution released its eighth album, *Kintsugi* (Atlantic); the record is Death Cab's first since 2011 — which also makes it the first since the 38-year-old singer-guitarist finalized his divorce from actress **Zooey Deschanel** in 2012. Gibbard's three-year marriage to the *New Girl* star, 35, made him an unlikely celebrity, that rare musician who turns up on both Pitchfork

and TMZ. And now that it's over, everyone's wondering if new songs like "Black Sun" and "Ingenué" are about his ex. He saw the speculation coming, but Gibbard didn't get to be one of rock's most respected songwriters by skimping on the personal stuff.

"I'm not going to change the way I've always written for fear of people correctly or incorrectly assigning a name and face to these songs," says Gibbard, sitting in Atlantic's Manhattan offices, still wearing a brace on the wrist he broke while

running a 50K race in February. “I’ve always written about my life and the lives of people around me, and how everything intersects.”

The son of a Navy officer, Gibbard moved around a lot as a kid, but grew up primarily in Bremerton, Wash., where he fell hard for punk and indie rock. He started Death Cab, a solo project that expanded into a quartet, in 1997 while studying engineering at Western Washington University. After signing with Barsuk and releasing a string of acclaimed albums, the foursome rose to bigger fame around 2003, when the character Seth Cohen on Fox’s era-defining teen soap *The O.C.* started giving the band weekly props — Death Cab even appeared in a second-season episode. To a generation of geeky-cool indie kids like Seth, Gibbard was a sympathetic voice, a fellow nerd who wrote earnestly about love and heartbreak. Especially heartbreak.

“People turn to us because they don’t want to feel alone in their melancholic moments,” says Gibbard. “And I’m happy to provide that soundtrack.”

He won’t say which *Kintsugi* tracks were inspired by Deschanel, who is now expecting her first child with her film-producer fiancé

Jacob Pechenik (*The Skeleton Twins, Jobs*), but admits it’s “fairly obvious.” And Deschanel isn’t the only A-lister who might think the album hits too close to home. Dance-rock groover “Good Help (Is So Hard to Find)” is a pointed celebrity critique that begins, “You’ll never have to hear the word ‘no’/If you keep all your friends on the payroll.”

“The person I’m singing to is an amalgamation of people I came across living in Los Angeles,” says Gibbard, who returned to Seattle after the divorce. (He has a new girlfriend, but is mum on details about her.) “Being around people in entertainment who are fairly well-known, I noticed all these neuroses

and psychoses.”

But the vibe on “Good Help” is far from vengeful. “I wrote it from a point of biting empathy,” says Gibbard. “[Celebrity] is a strange way of living one’s life.”

That lack of spitefulness characterizes *Kintsugi*, a lyrically somber, sonically rich album that begins a new chapter for Gibbard and his two band-mates, bassist **Nick Harmer** and drummer **Jason McGerr**, both

40. Named for a Japanese pottery technique wherein gold plaster is used to patch cracks — an apt metaphor for creating beauty from distress — *Kintsugi* is Death Cab’s first album not produced by multi-instrumentalist **Chris Walla**, who left

the band in September 2014. By all accounts, the split was amicable, and Harmer credits Walla’s replacement, **Rich Costey** (**Muse, Interpol**), with pushing the band in new directions. But asked what makes *Kintsugi* special, the bassist points to Gibbard’s songwriting. “There’s a heaviness in these songs,” says Harmer. “There’s a fearlessness in the way Ben approached the themes. It’s an evolution: We’re confident in what we do now.”

It’s a confidence perhaps born of longevity. Like **Modest Mouse**, **The Decemberists** and **Sleater-Kinney**, fellow Northwestern indie heroes with new comeback LPs, Death Cab has stayed relevant in a way few 2000s rockers have. Since signing with Atlantic in 2004,

the band has scored three top five albums on the Billboard 200, including 2008 No. 1 *Narrow Stairs* and 2005’s *Plans*, which has sold 1.2 million copies, according to Nielsen Music. Its last LP, 2011’s *Codes and Keys*, spawned “You Are a Tourist,” which topped the Alternative Songs chart. Later this year, it will headline Madison Square Garden. And yet Gibbard doesn’t feel like some giant rock star — mostly, he says, because they no longer exist. Thanks to fractured digital culture, there are no new **Springsteens**, and oddball art-rock bands can find fans and sell out arenas. “This wouldn’t have happened 20 years ago,” says Gibbard. “People wouldn’t know **Animal Collective** existed. In the ’90s, if I wanted to buy weird music, I had to take a ferry to Seattle. It’s better now. You give people all these choices, and there’s an audience for weird.”

Gibbard doesn’t mind that Death Cab is just one of countless bands rock fans get to choose from. He gets to sing his heart out and tour the world, and with his divorce behind him, he’ll probably stay off **Perez Hilton**’s radar. “We’re on a major label, we have a platinum record — all the standards of success. But I never get bothered when I walk around Seattle,” says Gibbard. “We’re in this sweet spot: We’re successful but we’re not famous.” ●



“People turn to us because they don’t want to feel alone,” says Gibbard of Death Cab for Cutie.

GIBBARD’S SAD-BOY LYRICS

“A Lack of Color” (2003)

“All the girls in every
girlie magazine/
Can’t make me feel any
less alone”

“Transatlanticism” (2003)

“The rhythm of my footsteps
crossing flatlands to
your door have been
silenced forever more”

“Cath...” (2008)

“But you said your vows,
and you closed the door/
On so many men who would
have loved you more”

OVERHEARD

BY THE BILLBOARD STAFF

Tobias Jesso Jr.’s Make-Out Party

Tobias Jesso Jr. was feeling the love at the afterparty at Elvis Guesthouse for his rapturously received March 24 performance at New York’s Mercury Lounge. Shortly after arriving, the “Without You” singer-songwriter was seen either dirty dancing or making out with at least three people before departing.

Kinks To Become Celluloid Heroes

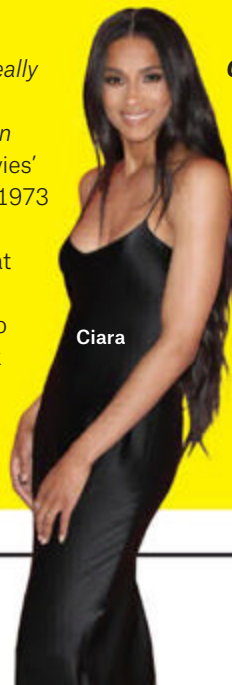
A **Kinks** biopic that has been in the works for more than three years is about to begin casting. Director



Jesso

Julien Temple says he’ll shoot *You Really Got Me* this summer.

Temple, who directed *Ray Davies: Imaginary Man* for British TV, says the story of Davies’ overdose at White City Stadium in 1973 will bracket the film, though it will end “on a more positive note.” Temple adds that Ray and sibling **Dave Davies** have helped develop the script. “It’s really about the two brothers,” says Temple. “They were a punk band if there ever were such a thing. Long before **Pete Townshend** was smashing amps, they were smashing each other.”



Ciara

Ciara’s No-Show No-No

Ciara’s listening party for her new album *Jackie* (due May 5) left attendees out in the cold. The R&B singer was slated to preview the LP at New York’s Gansevoort Park Avenue on March 30, but guests were turned away after the event was canceled an hour before start time. Instead, Ci Instagrammed pictures of her hanging with **Calvin Klein** designer **Halo Zucchelli** and sleeping in her hotel.

Got gossip? Send to tips@billboard.com.

'THERE'S A PILL FOR EVERYTHING'

Wale reveals his struggles with drugs, alcohol, depression, personal tragedies and what he calls disrespect — from the music industry, Twitter and even Katy Perry

BY BRAD WETÉ

ON PAPER, YOU WOULD expect **Wale** to be happy. His last album, 2013's *The Gifted*, topped the Billboard 200, and 2011's *Ambition* (his first on **Rick Ross**' Maybach Music Group imprint under Atlantic after an album on Interscope) hit No. 2. His strong new set, *The Album About Nothing*, released March 31, is inspired by *Seinfeld* and features **Jerry Seinfeld** himself. "We'll crack on each other," says Wale, 30, of their relationship. "He'll talk about the dumb shit that he does, like, 'I spent the day watching a documentary on making boots.' I'm like, 'Bro, really?'" But behind the good times, the Washington, D.C., rapper says he's got issues, and they're just under the surface on his deceptively titled album: drug and alcohol use, a miscarriage and what he sees as a lack of respect.

What are you talking about on this album that hits closest to home?

The industry. You can say I'm sensitive, but music is why I live. Other people have kids or a strong woman in their lives; all I have is my music. I work my ass off, and I'm not in these magazines — all I can go by is the people and what they say. People ask, "Why do you check social media comments?" What else do I have? I don't get major articles. Nobody talks about Wale like that. So what do you do when you're busting your ass and taking pills to stay up and provide the right energy, and you're not seeing the proper response?

What kind of pills?

My confidence was shot, so I'd be taking whatever to keep me in a good mood, to get me in the right mood for an interview. I'm not going into details as to what I was taking, but there's definitely something for that. Just like there's a f—ing app for everything, there's a pill for everything. Or something you can pour in your glass. I was depressed not being where I want

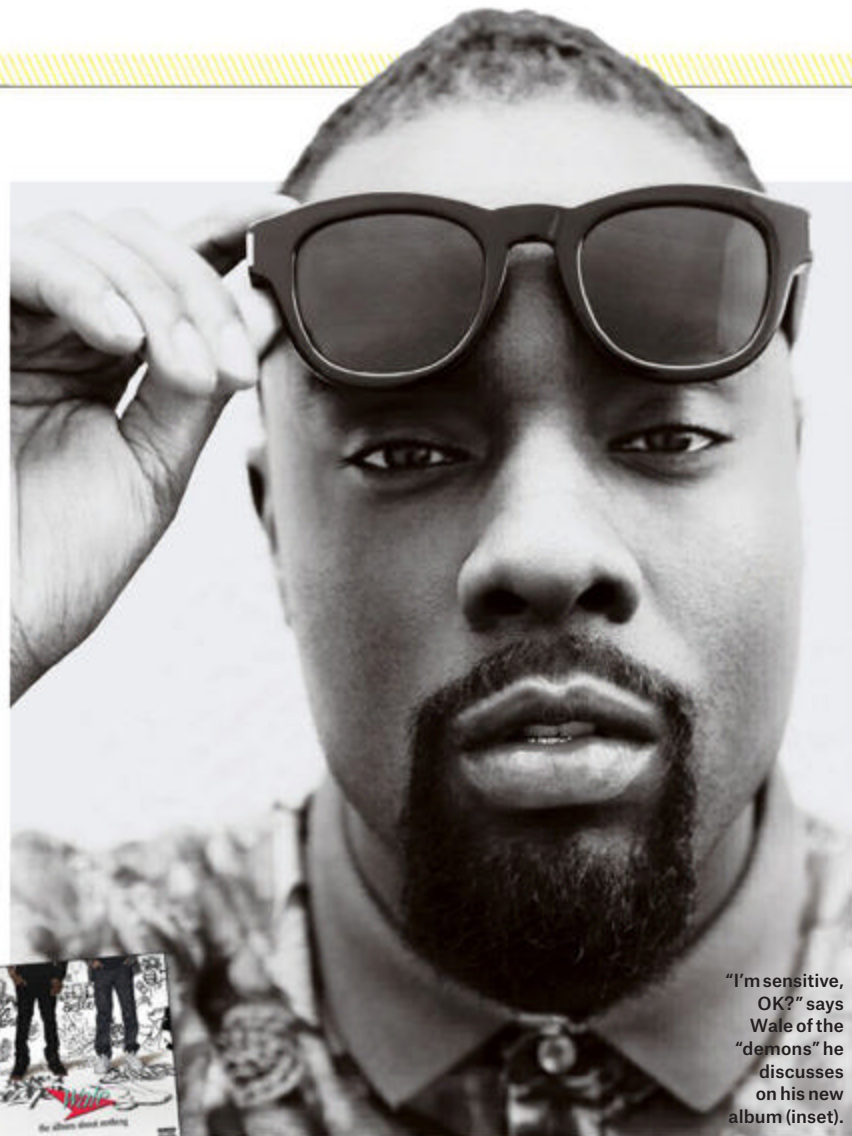
to be in my career when I've put the work in. I wasn't sleeping. I was drinking all day and didn't have anyone to go to. Those are some of the demons I talk about on the album.

On "The Matrimony," you rap about dealing with a miscarriage. Did that really happen?

The girl I was with, we tried for a long time to have a child. And when she finally did [get pregnant], she miscarried at 10 or 11 weeks. I was visualizing my child's face. We gave it a name and everything. All of that went away. And a couple of months before that, one of my closest friends died in a car accident, a cousin that was there for me through blood, sweat and tears. So I go through all that and I go online, and some white kid is saying, "You dumb n—er, you'll never be as good as **J. Cole**." You put all that together...

That's a lot at once.

All these rappers, they do songs about their mothers. I'm Nigerian — my mother didn't encourage me to do this. Even when [my first album] *Attention Deficit* came out and I had kind of made it, most parents would have been like, "My baby did it!" but I don't have that. My mom didn't come to my [youth football] games. I didn't have one-on-ones with my mom or dad. I was a degenerate — I was in juvenile facilities a lot. My point is that I grew up with the outside world meaning the most to me. This is in



"I'm sensitive, OK?" says Wale of the "demons" he discusses on his new album (inset).

hindsight — I'm trying to figure out why I'm this way. I rely on the people's opinions, because I don't have much outside of that. I'm already on the side of **Meek [Mill]** and **[Rick] Ross** trying to squeeze in the picture. And I'm trying to keep a smile on my face. Imagine how you'd feel if someone who put in less work than you blew up? People say, "You're such a bitch online." That's all I have — my opportunity to connect with you. I didn't want to be the guy that everyone was like, "He's got such a bad attitude." But I've been f—ed up by humanity. I've been through shit.

What do you think humanity has done to you?

Getting dropped from [Interscope in 2010] is only fun to people who

can't feel it. Everybody was laughing at **Trinidad James** when he got dropped. Damn, what if you just lost your job today? What if your friend got shot at and crashed his car and wasn't picking up the phone? I was in tears when Ross got shot at [in 2013] ... I was scared, thinking the worst. He wasn't picking up the phone. But I was seeing all these people laugh at him on social media. That's my friend! Someone said [on Twitter], "I wish it had been you," when **ASAP Yams** died. Is a retweet or laugh that important to you? I'm sensitive, OK? God gave me the ability to feel twice as much so I can write twice as much, maybe.

Do you think this album will get you the respect you want?

I gave this my all. I'm not trying to whine about being critically acclaimed, but it breaks my heart. Everyone says, "Be patient. It'll happen." But all signs are showing it won't. This is my fourth album. I want some respect. I want to go to a party and not have **Katy Perry** tell her security to move me out of the f—ing way. I want people to be like, "Your album's just as good as Kendrick [Lamar's] or Esperanza Spalding or Beck." I work just as hard as them. ●



From left: Meek Mill, Ross and Wale.

HEAR SAY

A LOOK AT WHO'S SAYING WHAT IN MUSIC

COMPILED BY STEVEN J. HOROWITZ

"I think that's what happened with me: I lowered my beliefs."

—JUSTIN BIEBER

The pop star, discussing his last few years in an interview with *USA Today* after his Comedy Central roast.

"I don't mean I lost money. I mean I lost a f—ing shitload of money. It was a few million."

—NOEL GALLAGHER

The singer-songwriter-guitarist, dishing to *Loaded* magazine about his solo career since Oasis split in 2009.

"Where I grew up, a woman was as apt to say 'poontang' as a man. It sort of meant 'lovin'."

—JAMES TAYLOR

The folk singer, explaining the lyric "Chicago's first-class poontang" on his new song "Stretch of the Highway" to *Rolling Stone*.

Tomlinson

Madonna

Bieber

Rihanna

"You're so inconsiderate pal, seriously how f—ing old are you? Grow up!"

—LOUIS TOMLINSON

The One Direction member tweeting producer Naughty Boy after the latter hinted that he would be working with Zayn Malik, who recently announced he was leaving 1D. Tomlinson accused Naughty of "trying to wind the fans up."

"If you refer to Tidal as Illuminati, you are paying us the highest of compliments."

—MADONNA

The pop star, Instagramming about conspiracy theories around the streaming service owned by her, Jay Z and other stars. The Illuminati "changed the world for the better!" she explained.

"I'm so busy right now that I just don't have a lot of time to offer to a man."

—RIHANNA

The singer, shutting down rumors that she's dating Leonardo DiCaprio during an interview with *Hello!* magazine.

"You're an asshole... Why are the macho afraid to love muchoooo!?"

—MILEY CYRUS

The pop star, blasting Gov. Mike Pence on Twitter for supporting Indiana's Religious Freedom Restoration Act, which critics say permits businesses to discriminate against homosexuals.

PRO TIPS

JOAN JETT'S WISE WORDS FOR ROCK WANNABES

Trying to make it to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame? Follow this advice from the glass-ceiling-shattering pioneer, who will be inducted April 18

DON'T CHASE TRENDS

"There should be more women in the Hall of Fame, and more women in rock. They're out there, they just don't get the notice the pop girls do. Go to any city and there's an all-girl rock band — it's just a matter of society wanting to hear that kind of music. But people's tastes change, so you have to just do what you love and hope other people love it too."

HAVE THICK SKIN

"We couldn't forget that we were girls — we had to defend it all the time. I could not get a record deal after *The Runaways* broke up. I gave all the labels four songs: 'I Love Rock 'N Roll,' 'Crimson and Clover,' 'Do You Wanna Touch Me' and 'Bad Reputation.' All four of those songs became hits, and all of those labels sent us rejection letters."

TAKE PICTURES — THEY LAST LONGER

"If I could go back and give my 15-year-old self some advice, I'd say to document what you go through. The Runaways have few photos or video. I don't think teenagers think that far ahead. I didn't think about the future or 'When will I retire?' I still haven't thought about that. Other people keep going, so obviously I can."

—CHUCK ARNOLD

"We couldn't forget that we were girls," says Jett, 58. "We had to defend it all the time."



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BY TASHA GREEN

PHOTOGRAPHED BY AARON RICHTER



M.I.A.

The fashion-forward singer wore an army green Marc by Marc Jacobs set to the Elle Style Awards.



KANYE WEST

The rapper arrived at the Dries Van Noten show in Paris wearing a Raf Simons camouflage jacket.

On him: CALVIN KLEIN COLLECTION chestnut quilted mesh bomber, \$1,395, solar nylon hooded shell, \$1,050, and chestnut French calf high top sneaker, \$869; calvinklein.com/collection. VALENTINO T-shirt, \$450; mrporter.com. POLO RALPH LAUREN trousers, \$125; mrporter.com.

On her: VIVIENNE WESTWOOD WORLDS END @ OC Hypnose denim jacket, \$800, and pirate denim trousers, \$550; openingceremony.us. ASOS casual crop boxy shirt, \$57; asos.com. ELIZABETH AND JAMES Cynn timer belt bag, \$295; nordstrom.com. STUART WEITZMAN Showgirl stiletto in dandelion goose bump nappa, \$450; 212-750-2555.

Stockholm's Chicest Export

The twin-sister duo who comprise Say Lou Lou are putting Sweden's serious fashion cred on display

BY JASON CHEN

PHOTOGRAPHED BY FRIDA MARKLUND

Though 23-year-old singer-songwriters **Miranda** and **Elektra Kilbey** have captured the attention of electronica cool guys like **Chet Faker** and **Hans-Peter Lindstrom**, who produced their synth-heavy album *Lucid Dreaming* (out April 6 through A Deux), the sisters' vintage '70s glamour tempered with the simplicity of Swedish design has paid fashion dividends. Chloe creative director **Clare Waight Keller** had them DJ her Paris Fashion Week party last fall, they modeled Gucci's pre-fall 2014 collection in a brand video, and the pair was in a CK One ad campaign last June.

1. CHEEKY SLACKS "My silk shirt is Gucci, which we love for its luxe vibe," says Elektra. "And these Acne [Studios] trousers are covered with a penis-and-wine-glass print ... We love a little irreverence!"

2. IN THE PINK "Carin Rodebjer understands a woman's body," says Miranda of the Swedish designer behind their blush pieces. "It's old fashioned but still modern."

3. TOP COAT "As kids, our parents dressed us in hand-me-downs, and now we see how special it is to wear something no one else has," says Miranda of the faux fur jacket she scored at a thrift store in Berlin. Elektra wears a trench coat from Swedish fast-fashion brand H&M's eco-conscious collection with vintage Levi's 501 jeans. ●



Miranda (left) and Elektra Kilbey of Say Lou Lou photographed March 9 at home in Stockholm.



Carin Rodebjer: Sweden's Buzziest Designer

Who she is: The Gotland-native founded her laid-back-luxe namesake label in 1999.

Signature pieces: Minimalist, slouchy suits and drapey dresses; prices range from \$170-\$1,100 on rodebjer.com.

Musician fans: Robyn, Katy Perry, First Aid Kit, Nina Persson, Sharon Van Etten and LCD Sound System's Nancy Whang

What Miranda and Elektra say: "Our mom wears it, we wear it, our sisters wear it — the clothing has a great flow."

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Epic Records

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OMAR JOHNSON
Beats by Dr. Dre

MIKAEL MOORE
Wondaland Records

Once hip-hop's next can't-miss star, this millennial provocateur is lately better-known for her nude *Playboy* cover and incendiary attacks against Iggy Azalea, Kendrick Lamar and "fat" middle Americans. But you don't know she reads Ralph Waldo Emerson. Or cooks grandma's soup. So is it just gonzo performance art gone awry?

WAIT, AZEALIA BANKS JUST SAID WHAT?

By Rachel Syme

Photographed by Ramona Rosales



"I'm not saying I'm a genius or anything. I'm not having a Kanye West moment. But this album is bigger than Azealia Banks, trust me," says Banks, photographed March 24 at the Metropolitan Building in New York. Styling by Cannon. Banks wears an Augusto Manzanares jumpsuit, Pluma earrings and Charlotte Olympia shoes.

MINE O'CLOCK ONE MONDAY night, Azealia Banks is demanding a rolling pin. The 23-year-old rapper-singer-controversy magnet wants to show off her cooking skills, so she has decided to make her grandmother's chicken and dumpling soup from scratch. She chooses a ritzy midtown Airbnb space for this endeavor because her Washington Heights apartment in Manhattan, where she lives alone, is a wreck: full of pets (two cats, a Schnoodle, a guinea pig, a rabbit and a snake), tarot cards and hair extensions. (In fact, Banks arrives late because she was getting a new weave put in.) The fridge here is stocked with cilantro and a whole chicken — "All the flavor is in the vertebrae," she says — but there's no rolling pin, and Banks, strong-willed in all things, says she cannot start without one. One of her managers, Nadia, locates an open supply store and rushes out. The soup must go on.

Banks is in her element in the kitchen, and she wants America to know that — to see her tender, domestic side. This is not, to put it gently, the side that most of us know. Here's what people do tend to know about Banks: a) Her self-released first single, 2011's graphic and highly original "212," shocked and captivated rap fans; b) her sonically adventurous debut album, *Broke With Expensive Taste*, then sat in limbo until last fall, possibly because ... c) Banks cannot stop whipping up controversy on social media and in interviews. Even on her self-described best behavior while making dinner, she can't resist reverting to her unfiltered self. She dismisses her longtime foil Iggy Azalea ("She just sucks"), confesses to casting spells on a former boyfriend ("It wasn't about being vindictive or trying to kill him or anything — I just wanted to dominate him") and claims her album is "better than anything y'all bitches did in the last 10 years."

"The first time I met Azealia was at a bar in New York with a bunch of music-industry types," says Vampire Weekend frontman Ezra Koenig. "She was responding to a drunk, middle-aged white guy's provocations with 'your mama' jokes. I love her combination of truth, passion and irreverence. You hear it in her music, too." Banks will seemingly go to war with anyone — or anything, including institutions ranging from hip-hop to Fox News. But she is also at war with herself. Her flip and bullying tweets can obscure her intellectual agenda as much as they reveal it. Banks speaks her mind about white privilege, women in rap, female desire and personal demons. She's also a provocateur in the purest sense: She wants to get a reaction, to shatter comfort zones. "I'm not here to be your idol, because I'm probably going to do some f—ed-up shit," she admits. "I'm probably going to f— some old-ass white man, and you're going to be like, 'What the f— is going on?'"

Using social media almost like performance art, intending to shock, and also as a kind of public therapy, puts her in a lineage of artists including Courtney Love, Lil' Kim, Marilyn Manson and even Madonna. "Azealia Banks is a prodigy and tortured artist," *Broad City* actress and Banks fan Ilana Glazer tells *Billboard*. "It's exciting that one of those actually exists today." Hot 97 executive and DJ Ebro Darden says, "She may come out as aggressive, emotional and angry, and once they tag you with that angry or bitter tag, it discredits what you are trying to say. But I think what she's trying to say" — in relation to the frustrations of black women who feel undervalued — "is very important."

When Banks waltzes into the apartment, she's wearing a white belly shirt spray-painted with a rainbow, a tangle of gold necklaces devoted to different saints, a bedazzled baseball cap and a pair of rubber Vibram shoes, the kind that separate each individual toe. She needs this "nerd wear" because she's "always outside



picking up rocks and sticks and doing weird witchcraft stuff," she says, noting that she's deeply into divination and candle spells. "I'm always out in the dirt."

This Banks is a different woman from the one who recently posed in *Playboy*, wearing a latex cat costume (she also paddles around seductively in a kiddie pool filled with milk). In that interview, which reinvigorated the public vitriol that hovers over Banks like a storm cloud, she went on an extended rant about white America, jumping on touchy subjects like obesity and the red states. "I hate everything about this country," she said. "All the people who are crunched into the middle of America, the real fat and meat of America." Fox News, in turn, suggested that Banks should be deported — in Banks' imaginative interpretation, to "go back to Africa and get a clitorectomy."

"It's the responses to what I say that prove my point," says Banks, walking back the comments as she soaks the chicken in vinegar. "I was making a joke because American culture is very gluttonous. We're very, like, Big Gulp. You want Cup O' Noodles? Here's 24 in a box. Maybe I shouldn't have said that, but who cares? When you fail, you've got to fail fast."

IF ANY 23-YEAR-OLD CAN EXPOUND ON THE NATURE OF FAILURE, it's Banks: When "212" made her rap's brightest up-and-comer, she had already been dropped by her first label, XL Records. Banks grew up in Harlem; her mother raised her and two older sisters after her father died of cancer when she was just 2. She always wanted to perform. At 14, she enrolled in Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music, Art and Performing Arts and formulated what she calls her "world domination plan." "I was going to be on Nickelodeon or be a Disney kid. They had

"I OFTEN GO ON TWITTER AS A WAY TO DISTRACT MYSELF FROM BEING A PERSON."



"It's not like I need to be in the news, but I need to be processing everything that's happening. I can't let life happen to me. I have to happen to life a little bit." From left: Banks wears a Maria Lucia Hohan by Mahna Mahna dress and Bex feather shrug; at 10, appearing in an off-Broadway musical; with Lana Del Rey (left) and Pixie Geldof during London Fashion Week in 2012.

KEEPING SCORE WITH AZEALIA

Things the rap firecracker (for now) loves and hates

	 in	out
DEMOGRAPHIC	Witches "I do a lot of hunting and witchcraft," Banks tells <i>Billboard</i> .	'Fat White Americans' "I hate fat white Americans," she told <i>Playboy</i> . Now, she says to <i>Billboard</i> , "I don't hate y'all."
POLITICAL CELEB	Barack Obama "I want to f— the president," she admits. 	Fox News' Eric Bolling The TV co-host attacked Banks on-air for bashing America, so she Tweeted at him, "Go suck a d—k and die."
WHITE-BOY RAPPER	Machine Gun Kelly Often dismissive of white hip-hop, she confesses, "I actually love" this 24-year-old artist.	Action Bronson In December 2014, she called the Queens MC a "fat meatball" on Twitter. 
NEIGHBORHOOD	Washington Heights Banks lives way uptown in Manhattan: "I need to stay around families." 	Williamsburg The trendy Brooklyn hood where she once lived briefly is "like a fashion show — not for me."

shows like *That's So Raven*, and I'd be like, 'I want to be up there.' "

Banks started rapping after she watched her high school boyfriend and his friends freestyling. "I was just writing this little rap on the side," she remembers. "I spit it, and they were like, 'Oh shit, you can rap — you need to do that!'" She recorded a few tracks and uploaded them to Myspace in 2008, using the name Miss Banks. DJ-producer Diplo helped connect her to XL after she sent him her song "Seventeen," and the label flew her to London for a development deal — when she was still 17. The relationship, though, lasted less than a year.

"XL saw me as this novelty rap chick," says Banks. "They wanted me to make an EP so they could capitalize on the coolness of it, but I wasn't ready. I needed supervision." After losing the deal, she flew home and fell into a deep depression, working at Starbucks and even a strip club to make ends meet. But because she was "prideful," she decided to release "212" on her own, recording the track in a friend's bedroom and premiering it on YouTube with a black-and-white, micro-budget video in which she bounced around in a dirty Mickey Mouse sweatshirt while smirking at the camera.

The song made the 19-year-old an instant star, New York's new resident cool girl, and eventually sold 250,000 copies after she put it out digitally, according to Nielsen Music. She surfs an exuberant beat by dance duo Lazy Jay, rapping, singing, chanting and gleefully referencing cunnilingus in a heady collision of hip-hop and crystalline pop. She does it all with the ease of an artist who spent her life on the Web, piecing together her influences. "I'm from the Internet age," says Banks. "I got on Twitter when I was 16. I had f—ing Napster when Napster came out. I used to make those weird Angelfire pages where you could have borders with glittery butterflies and shit."


But in 2012, when Banks signed to Universal/Interscope and started touring the world, life got messy again. As she wrote and recorded *Broke With Expensive Taste*, she claims that the label blocked her creatively, trying to force hit singles. As her album languished, she vented her anger on Twitter. "I felt like a caged animal," she says. "I'm this twentysomething who just became a millionaire, and I'm just like, 'F—, where's my album?' Things started to blend together, and I was driving myself past certain points of insanity."

Banks began using Twitter as a weapon and a gonzo art project, a place to air her grievances and desires. "I often go on there as a way to distract myself from being a person," she explains. After the rapper Angel Haze started an online feud with Banks in 2013 and gossip mogul Perez Hilton took Haze's side, Banks lashed out by calling Hilton a "messy faggot" and got into a destructive Twitter thread in which she ended up telling Hilton to "gobble a d—k." (Today, Banks, who is bisexual, refuses to revisit the episode — "I'm tired of talking about this") — although she says, in a separate conversation, that "all my fans are gay boys.") She aimed her poison arrows at seemingly anyone: Azalea, Kreayshawn, T.I., Lil' Kim, Rita Ora, Nicki Minaj and her own management team. She even publicly begged to be let out of her Universal deal. Finally released in July 2014, she tweeted: "Free at last! ... I'm feeling like Miss Celie at the end of *Color Purple*."

With no label and no album, Banks worried that her online persona had started to eclipse her music. "There was a point where I was questioning everything," she says. "Am I brushing my teeth at the wrong time? Am I drinking too much? Smoking too much weed? What have I done?"

So she started to take back control. "I don't turn to anyone for advice," she explains. "I do what I want." Banks surprise-released *Broke With Expensive Taste* on iTunes in November 2014 — although she didn't put out a physical CD until just now, on March 27, and in total the album has only sold 31,000 copies, according to Nielsen Music. Still, the music is as dense and exciting as "212," pulling from a seemingly endless pastiche of influences, including garage rock (grungy California singer Ariel Pink produced "Nude Beach A-Go-Go"). And Banks will tour this year with a full band for the first time — a woman she met "in the nail salon, who does PR" recommended the group — starting with a major kickoff show at Coachella. "Everyone told me she was unmanageable and difficult," says Prospect Park chairman/CEO Jeff Kwatinetz, her manager since September 2014. "She had a lot of history, a lot of challenges. But she's the most talented artist I've ever worked with." The goal for 2015? "To get people to focus on her music."

At home, Banks is exploring a more centered, if still eccentric, way of life. She listens to the audiobook of Ralph Waldo Emerson's *Self-Reliance* constantly, and wakes up every night at 3 a.m. to drink red wine and work on her latest passion project: a book that will tell "the fable of Azealia Banks." She writes this and her raps standing up, taping paper to the wall and pouring out words until an egg timer, which she sets for an hour at a time, goes off. "I drink,

A full-page photograph of Rihanna standing on a wooden plank floor, looking over her shoulder. She is wearing a strapless, backless dress with a fringe skirt and a wide cuff. The background is a bright, white, textured wall.

**"I MADE A JOKE
BECAUSE AMERICA
IS GLUTTONOUS.
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T
HAVE. BUT WHEN
YOU FAIL, YOU'VE
GOT TO FAIL FAST."**

Banks wears an Augusto Manzanares body suit, Pluma cuff, Clara Kasavina earrings and Alexandre Birman shoes. For an exclusive interview and behind-the-scenes video in which Banks discusses her mother's opinion of her music and more, go to Billboard.com or Billboard.com/ipad.

I smoke weed, I don't really bathe," she says of her work routine. "I might go off and masturbate and talk to myself in the mirror for hours. It's a sort of psychosis. I work during witching hours, 3 a.m., 4 a.m., when the dead writers, the failed writers and the failed musicians who are dead are roaming around."

AFTER SHE HAS DROPPED THE DUMPLINGS INTO THE SOUP, BANKS reads from the opening chapter to her story: "Once upon a time there was a container and the container was filled with space. Inside the space was white light and dark matter ..." She reads for a half-hour, telling a meta-physical allegory that reveals her frustration with race relations in America. It's more veiled than the way she approached the subject in her *Playboy* interview, demanding reparations for slavery and its aftermath.

With the book, Banks wants to show people how her mind works — how deeply she actually thinks about both her music and the bombastic words that she says online. But she continues to step into public squabbles. Most recently, Banks seemed to tweet (and then quickly delete) a photo of her genitals to conservative blogger Matt Walsh, who had criticized her *Playboy* interview. These are the elements working at cross-purposes inside Banks: She is well-read and thoughtful in person, bright-eyed and able to discuss race, politics and gender with nuance, even grace. But then she tweets, and the whole cycle begins again.

Back in the kitchen, she unpacks some of her feelings on race. "I read Ta-Nehisi Coates' article," she says, referring to the widely shared 2014 *Atlantic* magazine piece arguing for reparations. "It was brilliant! That's the only way black people are going to move forward." She continues with a reference to Pharrell Williams, a former collaborator (and target) of hers who took heat last fall for comments he made regarding Michael Brown. "I get what people like Pharrell are saying, like, 'Oh, you just have to work hard, but we aren't given the tools.' But he's implying that he is the first and only person to ever try, and if you

try like him, then you can get to the top of the ivory tower. It doesn't work that way. You and I, Pharrell, we have assimilated. We're the most nonthreatening black people," she continues, then pauses. "Well, obviously, I'm very threatening. But I'm harmless. I wouldn't, like, run you over with my f—ing car."

Banks directed some of her most withering criticism at Kendrick Lamar in January after he told *Billboard*, "What happened to [Michael Brown] should've never happened. Never. But when we don't have respect for ourselves, how do we expect them to respect us?" She issued a string of tweets, including one that read: "How dare you open ur face to a white publication and tell them that we don't respect ourselves." She says that, even as someone who imposes few limits on herself, she feels there are right and wrong venues for speech. "Those are the kind of conversations that the slaves were having in the chicken coop," she says. "What we say about each other and what we think about each other is not for them ... mothers are grieving. Now is not the time to imply that these kids got killed because they don't respect themselves."

And yet she chose to do the cover of *Playboy* — an object, historically, for the white gaze, particularly the male gaze. She bristles when asked if she considers herself a feminist. "I guess so, but I also enjoy men and male attention and I like to show my ass and all that stuff," she says. "I like sex. [Doing *Playboy*] was way simpler than me making a statement. I was just like, 'I'm going to have professional porn photos? F— yeah! You're going to take a professional shot of my p—y? F— yeah!'" Says Kwatinetz, "My immediate reaction to *Playboy*'s offer was, 'No f—ing way.' I asked other people around the office, though, and they said, 'There could be something here.'" Even though she disavows it as any kind of statement, Banks clearly thinks of the pictorial as an act of defiance, maintaining that "people are so repulsed by me, because I'm such a polarizing figure, that no one really wants to see me naked."

Either way, the *Playboy* shoot was her vision ("I love cats") and she's open

about her sexuality. Her celebrity infatuation? Barack Obama. "He's so fine. Those big-ass white teeth and ears hanging off his head? I'm like, 'Oh my god, I want to f— the president.'" In real life, she volunteers, "I sleep with my security guards. I love security guards. They're these big meathead bald white guys with blue eyes. And I have had sex with a lot of my female friends. It's a proximity thing. It's why I am going to call my next record *Business and Pleasure*, because I'm always mixing the two."

She admits that if she is going to tame her sexuality at all, it will be so she can find a stable relationship. Her first major boyfriend, when she was 17, was a 43-year-old who was physically abusive. "He had no business getting around me," she says. "I definitely learned my lesson." Today, she says, "I want a really smart man, who has a lot of silly jokes and stuff. I have to tone it down if I want to get that."

Banks starts ladling out the soup, topping each bowl with a delicate spring of cilantro, as her friend and hairstylist Liz arrives. "I could be a chef," the rapper says. Indeed, the meal is so delicious that we all go quiet. Perhaps she really could be a chef — show another side the public doesn't see. And then she interrupts the silence, scuttling the thought: "Liz, do you think I need bigger titties?" She grabs at her chest. "I'm all ready to get my tits done, I've already paid for them" — with a \$9,000 deposit, which she has since gotten back. "I'm just afraid of the anesthesia," Liz groans.

Banks is an ever-shifting, sometimes self-defeating entity — careening from domestic goddess to public agitator to gifted rapper to cheeky troublemaker to shiny pop star and back around again. It's a cycle that overshadows her musical accomplishments, but, as she knows, it keeps her in the news. "Celebrities are celebrated, and I don't think I'm celebrated," says Banks. "But maybe one day. It would be nice. I just don't want to be forgotten about while I'm still alive." ●



THE PLAYBOY GAMBLE

The professional wisdom (or lack thereof) of posing nude for print

Naked pop stars aren't unusual in an age of oversharing. Miley Cyrus, FKA Twigs, Lady Gaga and Selena Gomez have all stripped for high-end glossy *V Magazine*. But what's rare about Azealia Banks' *Playboy* shoot is that she's an artist, presumably at a career peak, who posed completely nude without the pretext of fashion, but in the name of good old-fashioned sex.

Before leaked images regularly turned up online or companies peddled stolen sex tapes, celebrity nudes were a vestige of a pre-fame modeling past (see Madonna's art-school photos in the September 1985 issue of *Playboy*) or part of a calculated reinvention. In 1995, country-pop singer Nancy Sinatra graced the magazine's cover at the age of 54, nearly 30 years after "These Boots Are Made for Walkin'" topped the charts. La Toya Jackson went topless for *Playboy* in 1989, ostensibly to distance herself from her family. In

2002, former teen-pop star Tiffany posed totally nude in Hugh Hefner's monthly as a bid for a second act. "More than about being naked, it was about being [seen as] a woman," says Tiffany, now 43, who in her 30s was still defined by her adolescent mall concerts. "As soon as I posed, we couldn't stop the phone from ringing — it worked." (So well that in 2005, her youth-pop contemporary Debbie Gibson also posed for *Playboy*.)

Banks' star isn't waning, but *Playboy* editorial director James Jellinek sees her move as a huge crossover coup. "Before this, she was confined to the niche music-enthusiast world," he says. "This got people talking about Azealia Banks."

But were they talking about the *right* things? "She looks great, and she's a provocative artist, but frankly, I don't want to see anyone's p—y," says one veteran (female) publicity executive. "Do you want to be remembered for your music career, or for your *Playboy* cover?" —SHARON STEEL

"This record is about love and understanding," says Wilson, photographed March 3 at Capitol Records in Los Angeles. For an exclusive interview and behind-the-scenes video of Wilson talking about working with Nate Ruess and Zooey Deschanel, go to Billboard.com or Billboard.com/ipad.



‘Thank You God For Another Day’

Half a century ago, Brian Wilson shaped the course of modern music with The Beach Boys. Since then, he has overcome mental illness and escaped a shrink's ruthless exploitation. But at 72, his resilience is just as remarkable as his legacy, with a 2015 that promises a solo album featuring guests like Zooey Deschanel, a biopic starring Paul Dano and John Cusack, and a gracious outlook on it all: "I am alive, and that feels great"

BY DAVID RITZ



Top: The Beach Boys in 1962 in Los Angeles. From left: Wilson, Mike Love, Carl Wilson, David Marks and Dennis Wilson. Right: Dano as a young Wilson in *Love & Mercy*.



BRIAN WILSON'S EYES HAVE TURNED misty. For the past 20 minutes, Wilson, 72, has been listening to The Four Freshmen, the vocal group whose lush harmonies mesmerized him at age 14, and also inspired his work only a few years later, as the eldest of three brothers to form The Beach Boys — the seminal 1960s rock band that has sold more than 22.5 million albums and scored 54 hits on the Billboard Hot 100, more than any other American act. The Freshmen's wildly romantic "Their Hearts Were Full of Spring" proves too much, and he asks that it be turned off. "I am too connected to that song," he says, pain in his voice. "There's too much sentiment, too much history."

On this crisp, late-winter afternoon, Wilson is sitting in a conference room in Los Angeles' Capitol Tower, built the same year — 1956 — that he discovered the Freshmen. As a conversationalist, he's disarmingly direct and sincere. He requests another classic cut from the group, "It's a Blue World."

"This is the essential song," he explains, "the one that set the mood, the one that says, 'While the world is blue, blue is the most beautiful color.' Sometimes I imagine that the color of music is blue."

Brian Wilson is, in his way, a bluesman. He suffered physical abuse as a child from his father, battled severe mental illness and later endured a divorce from his first wife, Marilyn, with whom he had two daughters (Carnie, 46, and Wendy, 45, who became two-thirds of the early-'90s pop trio Wilson Phillips). For much of the '80s, he was ruthlessly exploited by a Svengali-style shrink, Dr. Eugene



“The life of a public figure is up for interpretation. I can’t — and don’t want to — control how people see me.”

Landy, who doubled as his manager. (In 2012, The Beach Boys reunited for more than 70 dates, marking the first time Wilson toured with the full band since 1965.) In *Love & Mercy*, a biopic coming to theaters on June 5, Wilson will be played by Paul Dano and John Cusack (as the younger and older Brian, respectively), and Paul Giamatti will take on Landy. Before that, on April 7, Wilson will release a lush, vital new album, *No Pier Pressure*, featuring guest appearances by artists including Kacey Musgraves, Zooey Deschanel, M. Ward and Nate Ruess of Fun. Although Wilson has been on the mend for decades, his album is deeply informed by a sense of loss. Here he discusses today’s music business, his plans for a celebration of Chuck Berry and how he is proud that he has “weathered not just one storm, but a lifetime of storms.”

Your fans may be surprised by the cover of *No Pier Pressure*. We’re at the beach, but there’s no sunshine, no surfers, no people whatsoever. Is this your way of rejecting pressure to replicate the lighthearted music associated with your early success?

I love that interpretation. The title came from my daughter, but I soon saw it had more meaning than a simple pun. When I was told that this is my 11th solo studio album, I realized I had some serious things to say. Well, maybe “serious” is the wrong word. Maybe a better word is “healing.”

In *Love & Mercy*, much of the action centers on your bouts with depression. How did you react to the film?

I thought it dwelled too long in the darkness. Overall I liked the movie, especially those scenes when I was creating in the studio. I’m endorsing it, but, to be honest, I thought it was heavier than it needed to be. On the other hand, I didn’t get involved with the script. That was left to my wife [Melinda Ledbetter, whom he married in 1995]. My attitude is that the life of a public figure is up for interpretation. I can’t — and don’t want to — control how people see me.

Couldn’t that same criticism about emotional heaviness be levied at your new record?

Not at all. This record is about love and understanding. It opens with a prayer,

“This Beautiful Day,” and closes with a prayer, “The Last Song.” I start out by praying that this beautiful day, with sunshine melodies and heavenly harmonies, lasts forever. The final tune prays that if we hold on tight, it will all be all right — all the anxieties eased, all the fears erased. It ends in hope.

Are you singing to your brothers Carl and Dennis, both of whom have passed on? To your dad? Your mom? Your former bandmates?

I’m singing to everyone. I’m also singing — and this may surprise you — with a subliminal sense of sexual tension. I think that frustration, that pent-up passion, can be felt in a lot of my songs. Critics haven’t pointed that out but, then again, critics often don’t hear what the artist hears.

When you listen to the album, do you find yourself drifting back to distant memories?

At times, yes, but more often, no. I am alive in 2015, and that feels great. I am proud that I have survived. Damn proud. Proud that I have weathered not just one storm, but a lifetime of storms. Proud that I have stuck with my music and musical convictions. And proud — really proud — to have proven stronger than many imagined me to be.

How do you find the music business today?

I’m frankly confused by the business and



1 Recording *Pet Sounds* in 1966 in Los Angeles. 2 An outtake from the *Pet Sounds* album shoot in 1966. 3 The Beach Boys circa 1965. From left: Carl Wilson, Bruce Johnston, Al Jardine, Wilson, Love and Dennis Wilson (lying on couch). 4 Onstage in the mid-'70s. 5 With Landy (right) at a Ringo Starr party in 1990. 6 Accompanying Ledbetter to the Berlinale International Film Festival's *Love & Mercy* screening on Feb. 8 in Berlin.

the different forms it has taken. I rarely listen to the radio, and when I do, I tend to go to the oldies stations. But that's OK. It goes back to everything I said about sentimentality and nostalgia. I embrace those things.

Do you see loss as a major theme in your work?

Loss for sure, but also gain. There's sadness in my work. But I've also gained a feeling of sentimentality. I feel that I've earned that emotion. It's beautiful to look back, and when you do — and if you're honest — you face the truth. Beautiful memories mingle with moments of pain. People lost. Relationships shattered. But then relationships renewed. Long nights of darkness followed by a new day.

Frightening voices — auditory hallucinations — have plagued you for much of your life. Is your need to harmonize a way to quiet those voices?

If you're asking whether music is an escape, of course it is. We escape from what makes us feel bad by creating sounds that soothe our souls and make us feel good. In one of my new songs, "One Kind of Love," I wrote, "Driftwood floating on the sea/Searching for the me, and all that I have known to be ... thank God you noticed me and brought back harmony to this lonely song." The "you" isn't any one person. It's my fans. My harmonies — all my diverse voices — are my way

of including their voices. It's a mystical connection between me and my fans.

What about the future? What's next?

More reflection on the past. I'd like to put together a celebration of the music of Chuck Berry, an album that would reconnect me to the roots of those rock rhythms that were the foundation of The Beach Boys. Our "Surfin' U.S.A." was built upon the groove and melody of Chuck's "Sweet Little Sixteen." It was Chuck, together with the harmonies I learned from the Freshmen, that helped form our sound. I want to go back and play "Johnny B. Goode." As a writer, I've had a few influences, and Chuck is primary. As a producer, he also informed my sense of how a record should feel. There were only two other producers I studied closely. The first was Phil Spector, who taught me how to make tracks and craft what some might call "baroque" backgrounds. The second was Bob Crewe, famous for his work with Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons, who showed me how to utilize horns to sharpen and sculpt an overall sound.

A poignant scene in *Love & Mercy* portrays you meeting Melinda, your future wife, and you're unable to express your feelings. Instead, you write three words on a card: "Lonely, scared, frightened." If you were handed a card today, what words would express your present state of mind?

"Thank you, God, for another day." ●

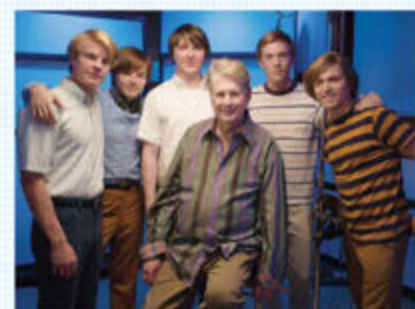
John Cusack: 'Brian Is A Survivor'

Love & Mercy is not a traditional biopic. "It's a portrait, painted by two actors, who are both trying to get a sense of who this guy is," says Bill Pohlad, a first-time director and former executive producer for River Road Entertainment (*12 Years a Slave*, *Into the Wild*). Written by Oren Moverman and Michael A. Lerner and made with the support of Wilson and his wife, Melinda Ledbetter, *Love & Mercy* presents two parallel narratives: one of a young Wilson in the mid-1960s, as he moves away from The Beach Boys' surf sound and becomes tortured by voices in his head; the other of an overly medicated, middle-aged Wilson in the 1980s, who is controlled by psychologist/legal guardian Dr. Eugene Landy and falling for Ledbetter (portrayed by Elizabeth Banks), who would become his second wife.

"By having two actors play him, we're admitting that there's no way to do all of Brian's life," says John Cusack, who spent time with the artist to prepare for his role as the latter-day Wilson. "What I took away from Brian's work, and having come to know him, is the feeling and sensitivity I needed to capture. That was the key."

Love & Mercy uses that sensitivity to delve into a past that was difficult, even for Wilson, to face. "[Brian] can play it cool sometimes," says Pohlad. "But it was really frightening for him to confront all of that and to see it up there." The result is an impressionistic rendering of a beloved and troubled icon who managed to escape darkness. As Cusack puts it, "I see Brian as a survivor." —NICK WILLIAMS

Additional reporting by Phil Gallo.

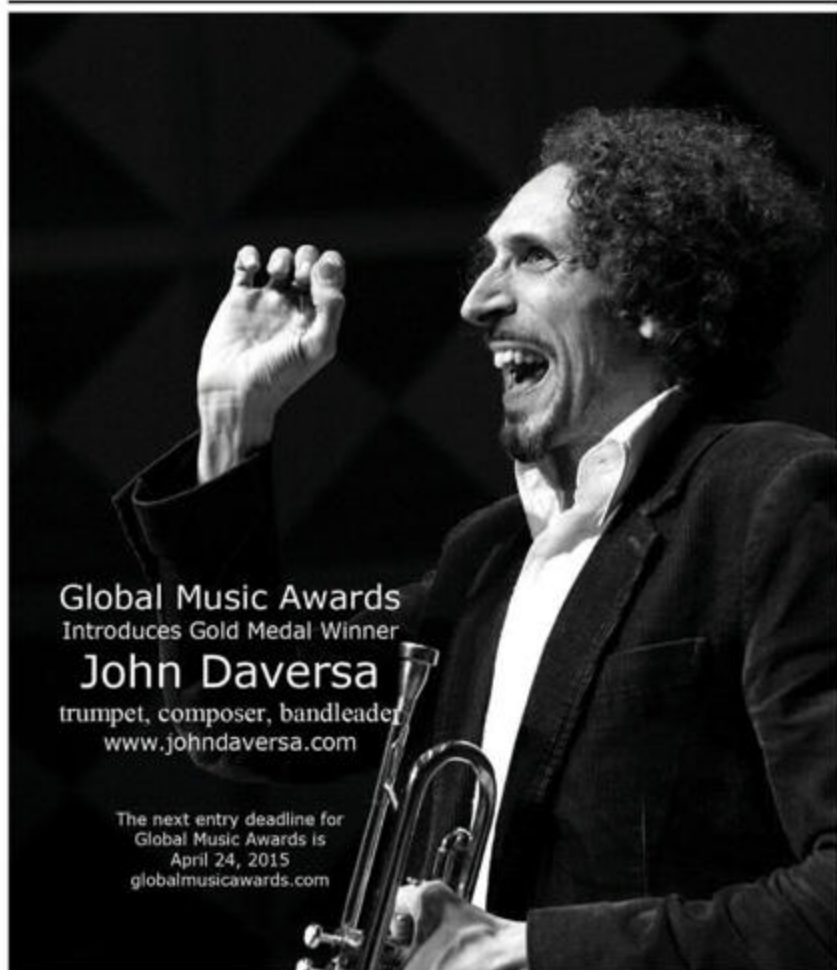


Top: Wilson (seated) with castmembers (from left) Graham Rogers, Brett Davern, Dano, Jake Abel and Kenny Wormald. Right: Cusack and Banks in *Love & Mercy*.



MARKETPLACE

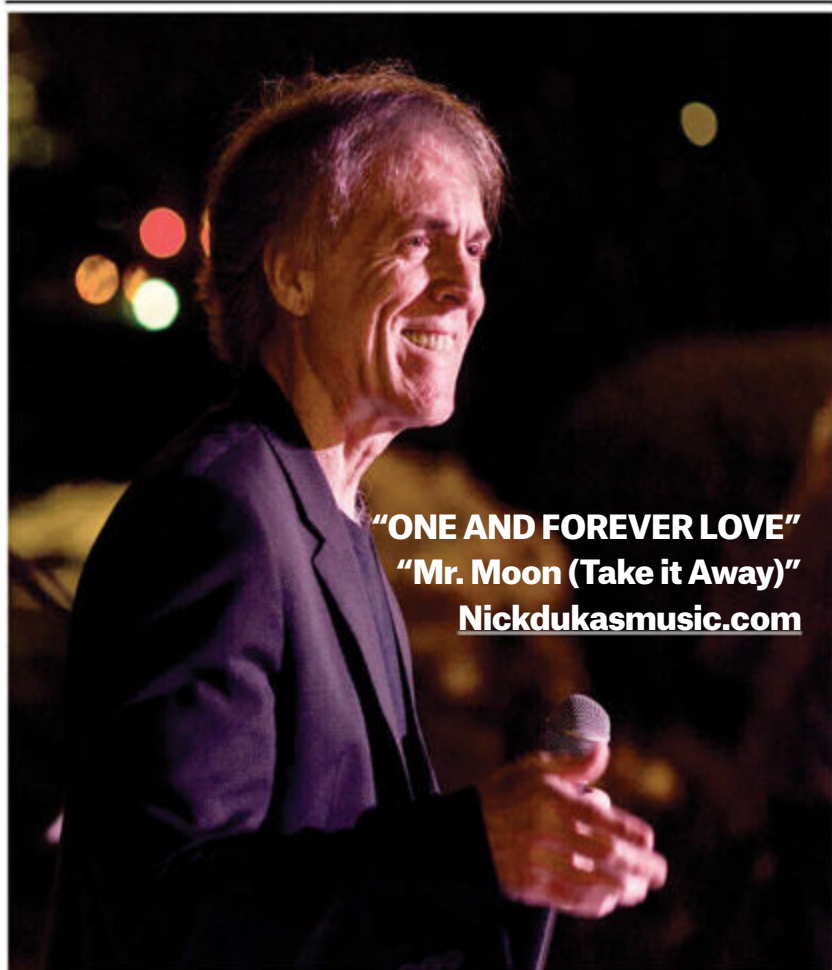
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Mendes: A career start from the future meets a sound from the past.

Reviews

From Six Seconds To 16 Tracks

★★★★☆



SHAWN MENDES
Handwritten
Island Records

LIKE MOST OF THE SONGS ON *HANDWRITTEN*, the title of 16-year-old Shawn Mendes' debut album (out April 14) is sentimental twice over, in the most knowing way. It points to the prevailing tone of these tracks — 16 of them, cutely — penned in the lexicon of mash notes and kiss-off missives slipped into school lockers, ready-made for inclusion on a mixtape at any given stage in the life cycle of a crush. It also denotes the retro arrangements, almost all founded on Mendes' acoustic guitar licks and augmented by horns, string sections and live drums rather than synthetic studio beats.

On the surface, that's ironic, since Mendes is to the six-second-video platform Vine what Justin Bieber was to YouTube — a teen from small-town Ontario who became the first singer to graduate from going viral on a new medium to real commercial success; like Bieber, he went on to get signed and climb both the charts (with "Life of the Party," a top 10 Digital Songs hit last July) and social media rankings. In fact, Mendes' first Vine hit was his cover of Bieber's "As Long As You Love Me."

But where Bieber, under Usher's tutelage, quickly got matched with R&B hitmakers to blend puppy-love tunes with of-the-moment rhythms, Mendes keeps his sound grass-roots. Vine might be high-tech, but it's also so intimate that it can feel almost private, and Mendes is savvy to preserve that ambience. His music is as stripped-down as his torso often is on Vine (#shirtlessshawn is a popular tag), and he gets away with it, partly, on the strength of his rippled tenor and apparent musicianship.

The thrill for smitten admirers is that Mendes seems to be

singing straight to their ears, either snuggling up for pillow talk or falling pleadingly to his knees, as generously cheek-boned crooners have done since the days of Rudy Vallee and Paul Anka (two other teen idols with Canadian backgrounds). The drawback for other listeners, particularly grown-up ones, is that there's not much else to hear — compared, again, with the synthesized bubble and snap of, say, Bieber's "Baby" or "Somebody to Love."

But on the best of *Handwritten*, confident hooks and big dynamics make the syrup go down smoothly. That includes singles "Life of the Party" and "Stitches," the blue-eyed-soul workout "I Don't Even Know Your Name" (which vouches for Mendes' admiration for Justin Timberlake and Bruno Mars) and the duet "Air" with Norwegian singer Astrid Smeplass, which includes a smattering of electro rhythms.

Elsewhere, on "Strings Attached" or the aptly named "A Little Too Much," the strutting and pouting invite criticism. Even Mendes' better mini-dramas have none of the lyrical twists and turns of Taylor Swift's (who invited him to open for her on tour this summer). And when Mendes and company go uptempo, they resort either to worn-out clap-along chants and whistling or, worse, a patter-singing style that's part rap, part ska and a whole lot the dregs of the sensitive-dude rock of Mendes' toddlerhood. Guest producer Martin Terefe has made some fine records, but that the *Handwritten* press release hails him as the brains behind Train's "Hey, Soul Sister" is a jumbo-size red flag.

It's a promising teen's first album, and it will satisfy the longings of the keepers of fan Tumblrs. So far, though, Mendes' music is not nearly as inventive as his strategies to publicize it. —CARL WILSON

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(Roc-A-Bella/Universal)

Coldplay And Sinatra-Obsessing With... **THE-DREAM**

As a songwriter, Terius "The-Dream" Nash, 37, has supplied stars like Beyoncé and Justin Bieber with a diverse array of styles. But he took a more divide-and-conquer approach as a solo artist for his two EPs: the R&B-oriented *Crown*, which arrives April 14, followed by the more pop-leaning *Jewel*, due July 7.

Why did you decide to release two EPs instead of a full album?

It was all [one] album, and we tried to figure out the best way to serve the consumer. People consume music so fast — I wanted to take advantage of that by doing six songs and then another batch of songs. *Crown* became the host for the quintessential Dream stuff. *Jewel* is more of a daytime record for a bigger audience. I wanted to draw the line between what people expect from me [as an artist] and what they expect from me when I work with other people.

You reunited with your writing-producing partner Tricky Stewart on this project. How is your relationship different now versus before?

Earlier in my career I had so much to prove. Tricky had already had success. If you're the little brother in the situation, you want [people] to see you as an equal, which I gained from the experience of going our separate ways. I ended



up with Grammys and No. 1 songs in that time.

After collaborating with so many musicians, who's left on your wish list?

Coldplay. I'm definitely a fan. It's just about [finding] the right time to do it.

What's your music obsession right now?

I listen to Sinatra way more than a person my age probably should. I listen to the Sirius XM Sinatra channel religiously. There's something about the storytelling of that music. —CHUCK ARNOLD



SUFJAN STEVENS

Carrie & Lowell
Asthmatic Kitty

★★★★☆

The folk artist stays oblique on tragedy-inspired album

SUFJAN STEVENS HAS AN MFA, which goes a long way toward explaining his conceptual leanings. From his abandoned 50 states project — one album for each state — to a multimedia piece entirely about a freeway, his work, even at its most mellifluous, tends toward the artful.

His latest, *Carrie & Lowell*, is no exception. Named after his stepdad and mother, the album was inspired by Stevens' grief after the latter died from stomach cancer. Isolated from the rest of his discography, it's a decent, if unremarkable, collection of hushed indie-folk, and the most immediate music Stevens has released in years.

In the context of that discography, however, it scans as yet another highfalutin "project," one full of painfully oblique lyrics that distract from the album's ostensible subject. There are rare moments where he manages to express the ineffability of anguish through music, such as the shimmering crescendo in "The Only Thing," but too often he squanders those with dubious references to such "signifiers" as Greek myths. Leave it to Stevens to make an album about grieving an "album about grieving." —GARRETT KAMPS



The rapper returns to music after five years spent mostly on the big screen.

Ludacris Plays Catch-Up

★★★★☆



LUDACRIS

Ludaversal
Def Jam/Disturbing
Tha Peace

ATLANTA IS NO DOUBT RAP'S de facto capital in 2015, and Ludacris' groundwork is partially to thank. The Illinois-born, Atlanta-based MC was part of the first wave of Southern hip-hop's ambassadors to the mainstream in the early 2000s, armed with an absurdist wit and a breakneck flow that dazzled with polysyllabic gymnastics. For the better part of a decade, Ludacris stutter-stepped even the most assertive beats from the likes of Timbaland and The Neptunes into submission.

But Ludacris has spent the last several years seemingly more focused on film and TV ventures, with minimal presence on the charts since his last full-length, 2010's *Battle of the Sexes*. He's now 37, and on his ninth studio album, *Ludaversal*, he's out to prove he's still got the chops to rival peers half his age. But it's worth noting that *Ludaversal* faced several pushbacks; the near four-year span of recording time shows in the LP's scattershot sound,

which pings from EDM crossover grabs ("Get Lit") to trap stompers ("Call Ya Bluff"). At a bloated 18 tracks on the deluxe edition, it's an often exhausting listen. At times, even Ludacris himself sounds spent, straining to compete with passing trends, borrowing buzzwords like "lit" and referencing social media ("A verse'll make your fans unfriend you on Facebook").

Ludaversal is most compelling when he lets his guard down. On "Ocean Skies," Ludacris makes a damning connection between his cognac brand Conjure and his father, who died in 2007 after a struggle with alcoholism: "Irony how Conjure would've made him even sicker/'Cause who gon' tell him he can't drink none of his son's liquor?" But thoughtful meditations on family and the fickleness of the rap game are uncomfortably juxtaposed against placeholder party anthems and clunky punchlines about Angry Birds and Wikipedia. Big K.R.I.T.'s Mississippi drawl on highlight "Come and See Me" only emphasizes the familiar patterns of Ludacris' flow, like a roller coaster that, after too many trips, has lost its ability to thrill. —MEAGHAN GARVEY



Howlett (center) and The Prodigy dig deeper on their new album.

Underground Dance Icons Rave On

★★★★☆



THE PRODIGY
The Day Is My Enemy
Warner Bros.

WHEN THE PRODIGY'S polarizing first single, "Charly," was released in 1991, frontman Liam Howlett was a gap-toothed 21-year-old with a bad attitude and a bowl haircut. The public didn't know what to make of the English group's riotous electronic sound that blended ragga with hardcore metal, but it was impossible to ignore. Within months, Howlett was hailed as the ringleader of England's burgeoning rave scene and pictured on the cover of *Mixmag* pointing a gun to his head. It marked the beginning of a new era of dance music that wasn't meant for the masses.

Much has changed in 25 years. The group released five albums, selling millions of copies worldwide, and the members were dubbed the Godfathers of Rave. Meanwhile, dance music has morphed into EDM, a far cleaner scene than the gritty underground from which The Prodigy sprang. But while rave culture may have lost much

of its edge, The Prodigy, on its sixth studio album, *The Day Is My Enemy*, has not. Loaded with 15 unrelenting tracks, the album is a heavy dose of big beat, the synthesized industrial sound that the group helped define decades ago. Some songs, such as "Wild Frontier," lean heavily on rock influences like Rage Against the Machine and Nine Inch Nails, while others, like "Destroy," are more dancefloor-friendly, peppered with lively scratch effects and sparse, robotic chanting. The fiercest tracks, such as "Nasty" and "Rok-Weiler," are severe to the point of disorienting. There's little relief.

It's a lot to digest, and the sound no longer has the wonder of being new. But perhaps The Prodigy has come full circle. In the same way that the group's first records were a reaction to watered-down 1980s dance pop, *The Day Is My Enemy* stands out against the sugarcoated EDM ruling today's airwaves. In that context, Howlett and his bandmates get points for tenacity and consistency. And while it's unlikely that the album will win the group many new fans, The Prodigy has always been an acquired taste.

—MEGAN BUERGER

LATE-NIGHT TUNES: THE HITS AND MISSES

Billboard picks the best and worst live TV performances from March 23 to 28

HITS



GEORGE EZRA,
SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE
(MARCH 28)

With his tousled bed-head and dreamy eyes, the 21-year-old Ezra sure looks like a pop star in the making, and his *SNL* debut demonstrated that he's more than just a pretty package. The Brit aced his performance of breakout single "Budapest," down to the falsetto "hooys" that punctuate the song (who knows what they mean, but they're irresistible). Props, too, to Ezra's band, which backed him with beautiful precision.



LEON BRIDGES,
THE LATE LATE SHOW
WITH JAMES CORDEN
(MARCH 25)

Bridges gave his retro R&B—which was already the talk of South by Southwest—a fitting throwback performance that was so Sam Cooke cool it was hot. Dressed in a smart suit and backed by a saxophone player spitting out Stax-style riffs, the Texas native danced subtly in place as he sang "Better Man" with a breezy soulfulness that had Corden repeatedly gushing, "That was so good!"



BRANDON FLOWERS,
THE TONIGHT SHOW
STARRING JIMMY FALLON
(MARCH 23)

The Killers frontman's new solo album is called *The Desired Effect*, and his adrenaized performance of the 1980s-sounding "Can't Deny My Love" achieved just that. Showing off his Las Vegas roots and years of arena-performance experience, Flowers was as electric as the sparkly sport coat he wore, with his dramatic tenor firing on all cylinders.

MISS

MARINA & THE DIAMONDS, LATE NIGHT WITH SETH MEYERS (MARCH 25)

Like the wacky stepchild of Carmen Miranda, singer Marina Diamandis wore a glittery pair of cherries on her head as she sang her new single "Froot." But that turned out to be the most interesting aspect of a flat performance. Although Diamandis' deep voice and quirky trills work on the dance-ready studio version of this song, they sounded lackluster live.



—FRANK DIGIACOMO

SINGLES

RIHANNA
"BITCH BETTER HAVE MY MONEY"
DEF JAM

★★★★☆

Rihanna's sassy new single recalls the icy trap of "Pour It Up," with her once again sneering over a stuttering beat. A more imaginative hook would have been nice, but Ri isn't playing nice here—following the folk-pop of "FourFiveSeconds" with this grimy bop proves she's impossible to pigeonhole.

—JASON LIPSHUTZ



Rihanna

JAMIE XX FEATURING ROMY
"LOUD PLACES"
YOUNG TURKS

★★★★☆

Shades of The xx's downbeat cool color the thumping "Loud Places," but the act's producer wisely builds up to a grander sound on the first cut from solo debut *In Colour* (June 2). Featuring vocals from band-mate Romy, the song climbs from hushed verses to a majestic chorus that samples Idris Muhammad.

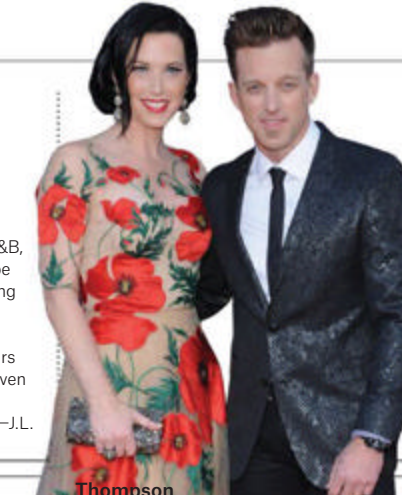
—STEVEN J. HOROWITZ

FKA TWIGS
"GLASS & PATRON"
YOUNG TURKS

★★★★☆

FKA Twigs has built a following by toeing the line between electronica and R&B, and "Glass & Patron" may be her most magnetic balancing act yet. As a fog of harsh buzzes slopes into a bass-heavy slither, Twigs murmurs "hold that pose for me"—even though she herself is coolly incapable of doing so.

—J.L.



Thompson Square

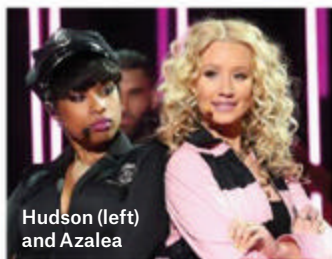
THOMPSON SQUARE
"TRANS AM"
STONE CREEK RECORDS

★★★★☆

Keifer Thompson is singing about more than just his car when, on "Trans Am," he asserts, "I want to hug those curves, and show you what this motor's made of." Innuendos aside, Thompson Square's latest finds the husband-and-wife duo successfully trading twang for classic rock, with a stomp-clap bridge that hits the mark as expertly designed dumb fun.

—J.L.

CHARTS



Hudson (left)
and Azalea

NUMBERS: NO 'TROUBLE' FOR IGGY & J.HUD

In slightly more than a year after her Billboard Hot 100 chart debut, **Iggy Azalea** scores her ninth hit with "Trouble," featuring **Jennifer Hudson**. The track debuts at No. 67 after its fortunes were aided by a viral video featuring a lip-syncing **Sean Hayes**.

31^M

Actor Hayes (of *Will and Grace* fame) and his husband **Scott Icenogle** posted a clip of them miming "Trouble" to the former's Facebook page on March 26. The video immediately blew up, garnering 31 million views as of April 1.

534[%]

Hayes' video undoubtedly helped the sales fortunes of "Trouble." The song snared its best sales week yet (41,000 downloads in the frame ending March 29, according to Nielsen Music), up a whopping 534 percent.

3.1^M

Radio is still warming to the track, which collected 3.1 million in audience for the week — up 14 percent. The cut is pushed back 36-37 on the Mainstream Top 40 chart, despite a 13 percent gain in plays. —KEITH CAULFIELD



Little Big Town's
"Girl Crush"
had its best
sales week,
selling 60,000
downloads.

TOMORROW'S HITS

PICTURE PERFECT

North London's **Wolf Alice** is on the verge of its Alternative chart debut with "Moaning Lisa Smile" (Dirty Hit/RCA), up 79 percent in plays, according to Nielsen Music. The 1990s-throwback track features sludgy guitars and a melodic hook from lead vocalist **Ellie Roswell**. The four-piece will release its first album, *My Love Is Cool*, produced by **Mike Crossey** (*Arctic Monkeys*, *The 1975*), on June 23.



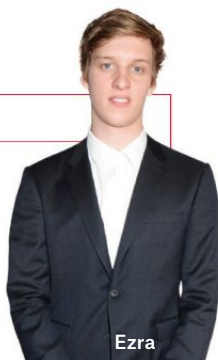
Wolf Alice

CHEDDA FLICKS UP CHARTS

Rapper **Chedda Da Connect** enters Mainstream R&B/Hip-Hop at No. 33 with "Flicka Da Wrist" (LMG/eOne). The trap-heavy single, recently remixed by **Rick Ross**, gained prominence on multiple social media platforms — Vine in particular — through user-generated videos featuring comical wrist-shaking dance moves. "Wrist" is from Chedda's most recent mixtape, *Catchin' Playz 2*, which arrived in December 2014.

CHART BEAT

Hungary For A Hit British singer-songwriter **George Ezra**, 21, makes his debut on the Mainstream Top 40 airplay chart as "Budapest" enters at No. 38. Boosting his profile: He sang the tune as the musical guest on NBC's *Saturday Night Live* on March 28. The folk-rock track (which topped Triple A for 10 weeks) joins the cozy club of Mainstream Top 40 hits that name-check European cities in their titles, including "London Bridge," **Fergie**'s first solo hit apart from **The Black Eyed Peas**, which reached No. 4 in 2006. (Honorable mention to **Paris Hilton**: The heiress-singer hit No. 16 in 2006 with "Stars Are Blind.") —GARY TRUST



Ezra

↑
71%
THIS WEEK

KYGO'S "STOLE THE SHOW"
STREAMS
1.4 MILLION



↑
64%
THIS WEEK

JENNIFER LOPEZ'S "FEEL THE
LIGHT" SALES
12,000



↑
25%
THIS WEEK

JODECI'S "EVERY MOMENT"
AUDIENCE
8.4 MILLION



Homophobia 'Controversy' Gives Little Big Town A Big Hit

The country group surges up the charts in the wake of media attention about radio's alleged reluctance to play its provocative latest single

BY KEITH CAULFIELD

L

LITTLE BIG TOWN HAS FOUND ITSELF A big hit in its new single, "Girl Crush." The track races 17-3 on Hot Country Songs — the biggest chart hit for the country quartet since its "Pontoon" sailed to No. 1 in 2012 — in the wake of news coverage about the ballad allegedly having difficulty getting radio airplay due to its lyrics, which could be misinterpreted to be about a same-sex love interest.

"Girl Crush" is sung from the perspective of a woman who's jealous of another woman's attractiveness. The lyrics are directed to a man involved with the other woman: "I want to taste her lips/Yeah, 'cause they taste like you/I want to drown myself/In a bottle of her perfume."

News of the song's alleged lukewarm radio reception — reportedly the result of listener complaints — garnered headlines like "Radio Stations Pull Little Big Town's 'Girl Crush' Over Complaints Of Song's 'Gay Agenda'" (*The Huffington Post*, March 27) and "Why

Stations Are Pulling Little Big Town's 'Girl Crush' — And What That Says About Country Radio" (*Washington Post*, March 25). Then stars like **Miranda Lambert**, **Blake Shelton**, **Reba McEntire** and **Dierks Bentley** began defending the song. Following the headlines, *Billboard.com* reported on March 27 — after speaking with country radio programmers — that the controversy wasn't as widespread as other media outlets had described. Case in point: In the week ending March 29, "Girl Crush" scored play on 140 of the 145 reporting stations on the Country Airplay chart panel, with 8.7 million in audience, up 28

percent — the largest percentage gain among songs in the top 30 (according to Nielsen Music). As a result, the song rises 32-26 in its 16th week.

"Girl Crush" also vaults 4-1 on Country Digital Songs (60,000 downloads, up 137 percent; its

best sales week) and zooms 20-2 on Country Streaming Songs (1.6 million U.S. streams, up 115 percent). Parent album *Pain Killer* also benefits, logging its top sales week (6,000; up 113 percent) since Christmas and returning to the top 10 on Top Country Albums (15-7) and the top 40 on the *Billboard* 200 (80-36). Meanwhile, Little Big Town zips 91-44 on the *Billboard* Artist 100. ●



A BRAND-NEW DAY

Zella Day follows in the sonic footsteps of ethereal alt-pop female singer-songwriters like **Lana Del Rey** on her debut hit, "Hypnotic" (Hollywood), which debuts on Triple A at No. 25 and precedes her debut album, *Kicker* (June 2). Day, from tiny Pinetop, Ariz., has drawn more than 1 million clicks for the song's official video on her YouTube channel.

—EMILY WHITE, AMAYA MENDIZABAL and GARY TRUST



Day

MARKET WATCH

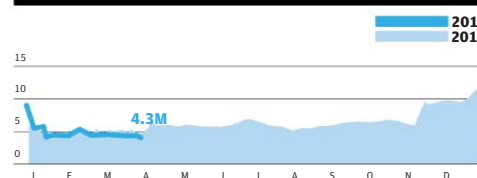
A WEEKLY NATIONAL MUSIC SALES REPORT

Weekly Unit Sales

	ALBUMS	DIGITAL ALBUMS*	DIGITAL TRACKS
This Week	4,333,000	1,975,000	19,578,000
Last Week	4,660,000	2,286,000	19,581,000
Change	-7.0%	-13.6%	0.0%
This Week Last Year	4,670,000	2,037,000	21,469,000
Change	-7.2%	-3.0%	-8.8%

*Digital album sales are also counted within album sales.

Weekly Album Sales (Million Units)



YEAR-TO-DATE

Overall Unit Sales

	2014	2015	CHANGE
Albums	61,721,000	60,622,000	-1.8%
Digital Tracks	312,003,000	277,887,000	-10.9%
Store Singles	511,000	959,000	87.7%
Total	374,235,000	339,468,000	-9.3%
Album w/TEA*	92,921,300	88,410,700	-4.9%

*Includes track-equivalent album sales (TEA) with 10 track downloads equivalent to one album sale.

Album Sales

2014	61.7 Million
2015	60.6 Million

Sales by Album Format

	2014	2015	CHANGE
CD	31,904,000	29,079,000	-8.9%
Digital	27,845,000	28,637,000	2.8%
Vinyl	1,815,000	2,767,000	52.5%
Other	159,000	135,000	-15.1%

Sales by Album Category

	2014	2015	CHANGE
Current	30,237,000	29,523,000	-2.4%
Catalog	31,485,000	31,099,000	-1.2%
Deep Catalog	25,765,000	25,827,000	0.2%

Current Album Sales

2014	30.2 Million
2015	29.5 Million

Catalog Album Sales

2014	31.5 Million
2015	31.1 Million

Nielsen Music counts as current only sales within the first 18 months of an album's release (12 months for classical and jazz albums). Titles that stay in the top half of the *Billboard* 200, however, remain as current. Titles older than 18 months are catalog. Deep catalog is a subset of catalog for titles out more than 36 months.

For week ending March 29, 2015. Figures are rounded. Compiled from a national sample of retail store and rack sales reports collected by Nielsen Music.


Billboard Artist 100


April 11
2015
billboard

NO. 49
James Bay

The British singer-songwriter bows as debut full-length *Chaos and the Calm* enters Top Album Sales at No. 12 with 20,000 copies sold, according to Nielsen Music. Lead single "Hold Back the River" jumps 19-17 on Triple A and debuts at No. 38 on both Adult Top 40 and Alternative.






2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST	IMPRINT/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	PEAK POS.	WKS. ON CHART
1	2	1	#1 TAYLOR SWIFT	BIG MACHINE/BMLG	1	35
82	1	2	KENDRICK LAMAR	TOP DAWG/AFTERMATH/INTERSCOPE/IGA	1	15
2	3	3	MAROON 5	222/INTERSCOPE/IGA	1	39
4	4	4	ED SHEERAN	ATLANTIC/AG	2	39
5	5	5	DRAKE	YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	1	39
6	6	6	SAM SMITH	CAPITOL	1	39
						
8	7	7	ELLIE GOULDING	CHERRYTREE/INTERSCOPE/IGA	7	23
9	10	8	NICKI MINAJ	YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	2	39
13	11	9	THE WEEKND	XO/REPUBLIC	9	24
11	8	10	MEGHAN TRAINOR	EPIC	1	37
26	25	11	RIHANNA	WESTBURY ROAD/ROC NATION	11	35
12	15	12	ARIANA GRANDE	REPUBLIC	1	39
10	9	13	MARK RONSON	RCA	5	19
14	14	14	BRUNO MARS	ATLANTIC/AG	10	39
16	19	15	IMAGINE DRAGONS	KIDINAKORNER/INTERSCOPE/IGA	2	39
30	34	16	ONE DIRECTION	SYCO/COLUMBIA	2	39
3	13	17	LUKE BRYAN	CAPITOL NASHVILLE/UMGN	3	39
19	18	18	NICK JONAS	SAFEHOUSE/ISLAND	11	27

2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST	IMPRINT/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	PEAK POS.	WKS. ON CHART
15	16	19	FALL OUT BOY	DCD2/ISLAND	2	29
21	20	20	SAM HUNT	MCA NASHVILLE/UMGN	5	37
RE-ENTRY		21	KIDZ BOP KIDS	RAZOR & TIE	9	13
NEW		22	ACTION BRONSON	VICE/ATLANTIC/AG	22	1
18	21	23	HOZIER	RUBYWORKS/COLUMBIA	5	30
17	17	24	BIG SEAN	G.O.O.D./DEF JAM	2	23
23	22	25	KATY PERRY	CAPITOL	6	39
22	23	26	BEYONCE	PARKWOOD/COLUMBIA	6	39
34	27	27	FETTY WAP	RGF/300	27	7
41	30	28	WALK THE MOON	RCA	28	12
44	36	29	JASON DERULO	BELUGA HEIGHTS/WARNER BROS.	9	37
29	32	30	FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE	REPUBLIC NASHVILLE/BMLG	1	39
						
27	31	31	CHRIS BROWN	RCA	1	39
38	35	32	TOVE LO	ISLAND	10	37
25	28	33	NE-YO	COMPOUND ENTERTAINMENT/MOTOWN/CAPITOL	9	14
24	24	34	KANYE WEST	G.O.O.D./ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM	12	13
20	29	35	KELLY CLARKSON	19/RCA	5	11

The week's most popular artists across all genres, ranked by album and track sales as measured by Nielsen Music, radio airplay audience impressions as measured by Nielsen Music, streaming activity data from online music sources tracked by Nielsen Music, and fan interaction on social networking sites as compiled by Next Big Sound. See Charts Legend on billboard.com/hiz for complete rules and explanations. © 2015, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.

AIRPLAY/STREAMING &
SALES DATA COMPILED BY
nielsen
MUSIC

2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST	IMPRINT/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	PEAK POS.	WKS. ON CHART
28	40	36	ZAC BROWN BAND	SOUTHERN GROUND/VARVATOS/REPUBLIC	28	25
35	43	37	RAE SREMMURD	EARDRUMA/INTERSCOPE/IGA	7	30
42	45	38	CALVIN HARRIS	FLY EYE/COLUMBIA	9	39
31	39	39	EMINEM	WEB/SHADY/AFTERMATH/INTERSCOPE/IGA	11	39
NEW		40	EARL SWEATSHIRT	TAN CRESSIDA/COLUMBIA	40	1
36	41	41	SIA	MONKEY PUZZLE/RCA	5	39
32	37	42	PITBULL	MR. 305/FAMOUS ARTIST/POLO GROUNDS/SONY MUSIC LATIN/RCA	18	39
40	44	43	J. COLE	DREAMVILLE/ROC NATION/COLUMBIA	2	16
98	91	44	LITTLE BIG TOWN	CAPITOL NASHVILLE/UMGN	17	15
48	47	45	FLO RIDA	POE BOY/ATLANTIC/AG	45	10
50	60	46	IGGY AZALEA	TURN FIRST/HUSTLE GANG/DEF JAM	2	39
37	46	47	JASON ALDEAN	BROKEN BOW/BBMG	1	39
45	50	48	SELENA GOMEZ	HOLLYWOOD	10	26
						
NEW		49	JAMES BAY	REPUBLIC	49	1
51	52	50	ERIC CHURCH	EMI NASHVILLE/UMGN	39	38
59	53	51	NATALIE LA ROSE	I.M.G./REPUBLIC	51	7
43	49	52	BLAKE SHELTON	WARNER BROS. NASHVILLE/WMN	1	39
49	51	53	ONEREPUBLIC	MOSLEY/INTERSCOPE/IGA	6	39
87	81	54	GEORGE EZRA	COLUMBIA	51	4
52	58	55	VANCE JOY	F-STOP/ATLANTIC/AG	34	30
NEW		56	COURTNEY BARNETT	MILK/HOUSE ANXIETY/MARATHON ARTISTS/MOM + POP	56	1
54	57	57	TREY SONGZ	SONGBOOK/ATLANTIC/AG	1	39
79	66	58	ECHOSMITH	WARNER BROS.	26	27
NEW		59	VAN MORRISON	RCA	59	1
58	59	60	COLE SWINDELL	WARNER BROS. NASHVILLE/WMN	54	31
62	70	61	LEE BRICE	CURB	15	39
55	56	62	WIZ KHALIFA	ROSTRUM/ATLANTIC/AG	2	39
74	72	63	JUSTIN BIEBER	SCHOOLBOY/RAYMOND BRAUN/DEF JAM	34	38
56	69	64	CARRIE UNDERWOOD	19/ARISTA NASHVILLE/SMN	9	30
53	61	65	ZEDD	INTERSCOPE/IGA	42	17
-	12	66	MODEST MOUSE	EPIC	12	2
39	64	67	KID ROCK	TOP DOG/WARNER BROS.	5	5
47	55	68	USHER	RCA	35	37
46	62	69	MIRANDA LAMBERT	RCA NASHVILLE/SMN	18	29
-	75	70	ANDY GRAMMER	S-CURVE	70	2
69	71	71	JEREMIH	MICK SCHULTZ/DEF JAM	30	35

2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST	IMPRINT/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	PEAK POS.	WKS. ON CHART
76	79	72	FIFTH HARMONY	SYCO/EPIC	12	18
63	68	73	JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE	RCA	20	37
61	74	74	PHARRELL WILLIAMS	I AM OTHER/COLUMBIA	9	39
57	67	75	PAUL MCCARTNEY	MPL/HEAR/CONCORD	37	9
78	78	76	DIERKS BENTLEY	CAPITOL NASHVILLE/UMGN	35	27
70	65	77	TYGA	YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	27	9
64	85	78	LED ZEPPELIN	SWAN SONG/ATLANTIC/RHINO	19	19
						
67	77	79	JOHN LEGEND	G.O.O.D./COLUMBIA	15	39
90	88	80	KENNY CHESNEY	BLUE CHAIR/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE/SMN	2	39
7	48	81	MADONNA	LIVE NATION/INTERSCOPE/IGA	7	3
RE-ENTRY		82	DAVID GUETTA	WHAT A MUSIC/PARLOPHONE/ATLANTIC/AG	48	8
65	76	83	JUICY J	KEMOSABE/COLUMBIA	46	14
84	80	84	DARIUS RUCKER	CAPITOL NASHVILLE/UMGN	51	16
89	83	85	CHRIS YOUNG	RCA NASHVILLE/SMN	75	10
60	84	86	SHEPPARD	EMPIRE OF SONG/CHUGG/DECCA/SCHOOLBOY/REPUBLIC	60	3
-	33	87	AWOLNATION	RED BULL	33	3
80	87	88	TIM MCGRAW	BIG MACHINE/BMLG	10	38
33	73	89	MUMFORD & SONS	GENTLEMEN OF THE ROAD/GLASSNOTE	33	3
81	89	90	ADELE	XL/COLUMBIA	60	32
88	97	91	CHASE RICE	DACK JANIELS	13	19
-	96	92	OMARION	MAYBACH/ATLANTIC/AG	92	2
RE-ENTRY		93	ROMEO SANTOS	SONY MUSIC LATIN	63	11
RE-ENTRY		94	JOE BONAMASSA	J & R ADVENTURES	55	2
97	90	95	AVICII	PRMD/ISLAND	50	35
92	98	96	MICHAEL JACKSON	MJJ/EPIC	25	28
75	63	97	JUSSIE SMOLLETT	20TH CENTURY FOX TV/COLUMBIA	42	6
73	86	98	BRETT ELDREDGE	ATLANTIC/WMN	66	12
RE-ENTRY		99	JENNIFER LOPEZ	CAPITOL	61	6
						
RE-ENTRY		100	MILEY CYRUS	RCA	25	32



Van Morrison Debuts

Nearly a half-century after he first appeared on a *Billboard* chart, **Van Morrison** (above) bows on the Billboard Artist 100 (which launched in July 2014). The revered Irish singer-songwriter enters at No. 59, powered by the start of his new album, *Duets: Re-Working the Catalogue*, which begins on Top Album Sales at No. 11 with 21,000 copies sold, according to Nielsen Music. The set sports duets of mostly deep Van Morrison cuts with guests including **Michael Buble**, **Joss Stone** and **Steve Winwood**, as well as his daughter **Shana**, who has toured with her father for several years.

Fueled by the start of her new single “Bitch Better Have My Money,” which soars onto the Billboard Hot 100 at No. 23 (see page 1), **Rihanna** rockets to her best Artist 100 rank yet (25-11). She previously charted as high as No. 20 on the Artist 100 on Feb. 28 (her sole prior week in the top 20). That week, her “FourFiveSeconds,” with **Kanye West** and **Paul McCartney**, rose to its No. 4 peak on the Hot 100. Rihanna surges to her new Artist 100 highpoint with a 73 percent gain in overall activity and with the majority (58 percent) of her chart points from digital song sales.

Atop the Artist 100, **Taylor Swift** rebounds 2-1 for her record-extending 20th week at the summit.

—*Gary Trust*

Billboard 200

April 11
2015
billboard

2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST IMPRINT/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	CERTIFICATION	TITLE	PEAK POS.	WKS. ON CHART
-	1	1	KENDRICK LAMAR TOP DAWG/AFTERMATH/INTERSCOPE/IGA	#1 2 WKS	To Pimp A Butterfly	1	2
			As the set moves another 123,000 units (down 66 percent), it becomes the first album to spend its first two weeks at No. 1 since Taylor Swift's 1989 on Nov. 22, 2014.				
1	2	2	SOUNDTRACK 20TH CENTURY FOX TV/COLUMBIA		Empire: Original Soundtrack From Season 1	1	3
4	4	3	SOUNDTRACK UNIVERSAL STUDIOS/REPUBLIC		Fifty Shades Of Grey	2	7
6	9	4	SAM SMITH ▲ CAPITOL		In The Lonely Hour	2	41
5	5	5	TAYLOR SWIFT ▲ BIG MACHINE/BMLG		1989	1	22
8	7	6	ED SHEERAN ▲ ATLANTIC/AG		X	1	40
HOT SHOT DEBUT	7	7	ACTION BRONSON VICE/ATLANTIC/AG		Mr. Wonderful	7	1
7	6	8	DRAKE YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC		If You're Reading This It's Too Late	1	7
9	10	9	MAROON 5 222/INTERSCOPE/IGA		V	1	30
NEW	10	10	KIDZ BOP KIDS RAZOR & TIE		Kidz Bop 28	10	1
11	11	11	MEGHAN TRAINOR EPIC		Title	1	11
NEW	12	12	EARL SWEATSHIRT TAN CRESSIDA/COLUMBIA		I Don't Like Shit, I Don't Go Outside: An Album By Earl Sweatshirt	12	1
15	20	13	SAM HUNT MCA NASHVILLE/UMGN		Montevallo	3	22
10	16	14	BIG SEAN G.O.O.D./DEF JAM		Dark Sky Paradise	1	5
NEW	15	15	JAMES BAY REPUBLIC		Chaos And The Calm	15	1
13	19	16	NICKI MINAJ ● YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC		The Pinkprint	2	15
-	12	17	SOUNDTRACK UNIVERSAL STUDIOS/ATLANTIC/AG		Furious 7	12	2
14	23	18	HOZIER ● RUBYWORKS/COLUMBIA		Hozier	2	25
18	26	19	IMAGINE DRAGONS KIDINAKORNER/INTERSCOPE/IGA		Smoke + Mirrors	1	6
NEW	20	20	COURTNEY BARNETT MILK!/HOUSE ANXIETY/MARATHON ARTISTS/MOM + POP		Sometimes I Sit And Think, And Sometimes I Just Sit.	20	1
17	22	21	MARK RONSON RCA		Uptown Special	5	11
16	24	22	FALL OUT BOY DCD2/ISLAND		American Beauty / American Psycho	1	10
NEW	23	23	VAN MORRISON RCA		Duets: Re-Working The Catalogue	23	1
3	15	24	LUKE BRYAN CAPITOL NASHVILLE/UMGN		Spring Break... Checkin' Out	3	3
20	25	25	ARIANA GRANDE ▲ REPUBLIC		My Everything	1	31
-	3	26	MODEST MOUSE EPIC		Strangers To Ourselves	3	2

2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST IMPRINT/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	CERTIFICATION	TITLE	PEAK POS.	WKS. ON CHART
19	27	27	VARIOUS ARTISTS UNIVERSAL/SONY MUSIC/LEGACY		NOW 53	2	8
23	30	28	NICK JONAS SAFEHOUSE/ISLAND		Nick Jonas	6	20
22	28	29	J. COLE ● DREAMVILLE/ROC NATION/COLUMBIA		2014 Forest Hills Drive	1	16
28	31	30	WALK THE MOON RCA		TALKING IS HARD	26	17
NEW	31	31	VARIOUS ARTISTS ABC STUDIOS/LIONS GATE/BIG MACHINE/BMLG		Nashville: On The Record, Volume 2	31	1
12	29	32	KELLY CLARKSON 19/RCA		Piece By Piece	1	4
38	41	33	ONE DIRECTION ▲ SYCO/COLUMBIA		FOUR	1	19
2	21	34	MADONNA LIVE NATION/INTERSCOPE/IGA		Rebel Heart	2	3
NEW	35	35	JOE BONAMASSA J & R ADVENTURES		Muddy Wolf At Red Rocks	35	1
			Joe Bonamassa extends his lead as the act with the most No. 1s on Blues Albums as <i>Muddy Wolf at Red Rocks</i> debuts atop the list, marking his 14th leader. B.B. King and Stevie Ray Vaughan share second place, each with nine No. 1s.				
96	80	36	GG LITTLE BIG TOWN CAPITOL NASHVILLE/UMGN		Pain Killer	7	23
34	36	37	FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE ● REPUBLIC NASHVILLE/BMLG		Anything Goes	1	24
101	38	38	ECHOSMITH WARNER BROS.		Talking Dreams	38	25
78	66	39	PS GEORGE EZRA COLUMBIA		Wanted On Voyage	19	9
NEW	40	40	SOUNDTRACK DREAMWORKS/WESTBURY ROAD/ROC NATION		Home	40	1
			The Rihanna-fueled album (it features three songs from the singer, who also voices a role in the animated movie) debuts with 12,000 units.				
27	37	41	PITBULL MR. 305/POLO GROUNDS/RCA		Globalization	18	18
44	35	42	TOVE LO ISLAND		Queen Of The Clouds	14	26
24	34	43	RAE SREMMURD EARDRUMA/INTERSCOPE/IGA		SremmLife	5	12
25	33	44	CHRIS BROWN & TYGA YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/RCA		Fan Of A Fan: The Album	7	5
39	45	45	FIFTH HARMONY SYCO/EPIC		Reflection	5	8
29	39	46	SIA MONKEY PUZZLE/RCA		1000 Forms Of Fear	1	35
NEW	47	47	STEVE GRAND GRAND NATION/BDG		All American Boy	47	1
51	47	48	ERIC CHURCH ▲ EMI NASHVILLE/UMGN		The Outsiders	1	59
21	32	49	KID ROCK TOP DOG/WARNER BROS.		First Kiss	2	5
43	42	50	CALVIN HARRIS FLY EYE/COLUMBIA		Motion	5	21

The week's most popular albums across all genres, ranked by album sales, audio on-demand streaming activity and digital sales of tracks from albums, according to Nielsen Music. See Chart Legend on billboard.com/biz for complete rules and explanations.
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SALES DATA COMPILED BY
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2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST IMPRINT/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	CERTIFICATION	TITLE	PEAK POS.	WKS. ON CHART
35	43	51	CARRIE UNDERWOOD	●	Greatest Hits: Decade #1	4	16
46	54	52	IMAGINE DRAGONS	▲	Night Visions	2	134
30	46	53	SOUNDTRACK	▲	Guardians Of The Galaxy: Awesome Mix Vol. 1	1	35
-	85	54	IGGY AZALEA		Reclassified	16	14
37	44	55	JASON ALDEAN	▲	Old Boots, New Dirt	1	25
49	53	56	CHASE RICE		Ignite The Night	3	30
45	51	57	LUKE BRYAN	▲	Crash My Party	1	85
-	13	58	SLEEPING WITH SIRENS		Madness	13	2
40	50	59	SOUNDTRACK	▲	Frozen	1	70
48	48	60	KIDZ BOP KIDS		Kidz Bop 27	3	11
NEW		61	KANSAS		Miracles Out Of Nowhere (Soundtrack)	61	1
72	40	62	KENDRICK LAMAR	▲	good kid, m.A.A.d city	2	126
RE-ENTRY		63	BJORK		Vulnicura	20	3
NEW		64	VARIOUS ARTISTS		2015 Academy Of Country Music Awards ZinePak	64	1
56	56	65	VANCE JOY		Dream Your Life Away	17	29
54	61	66	ED SHEERAN	●		+	137
-	17	67	AWOLNATION		Run	17	2
105	62	68	ANDY GRAMMER		Magazines Or Novels	27	8
166	107	69	DAVID GUETTA		Listen	22	17
26	49	70	NE-YO		Non-Fiction	5	9
57	58	71	ONEREPUBLIC	▲	Native	4	105
-	14	72	MARK KNOPFLER		Tracker	14	2
53	57	73	MIRANDA LAMBERT	●	Platinum	1	43
66	69	74	COLE SWINDELL		Cole Swindell	3	56
NEW		75	BIG DATA		2.0	75	1
41	60	76	THIRD DAY		Lead Us Back: Songs Of Worship	20	4

2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST IMPRINT/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	CERTIFICATION	TITLE	PEAK POS.	WKS. ON CHART
71	64	77	FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE	▲	Here's To The Good Times	4	121
63	65	78	KATY PERRY		PRISM	1	74
-	55	79	SOUNDTRACK		Annie	12	15
NEW		80	SMALLPOOLS		Lovetap!	80	1
NEW		81	JULION ALVAREZ Y SU NORTENO BANDA		Aferrado	81	1
64	68	82	BEYONCE	▲	Beyonce	1	68
59	67	83	BRUNO MARS	▲	Doo-Wops & Hooligans	3	219
70	75	84	FLEETWOOD MAC	▲	Greatest Hits	14	78
61	72	85	ZAC BROWN BAND		Greatest Hits So Far...	20	20
65	73	86	LANA DEL REY	▲	Born To Die	2	165
81	76	87	BOB MARLEY AND THE WAILERS	◆	Legend: The Best Of Bob Marley And The Wailers	5	357
69	94	88	SKRILLEX & DIPLO		Skrillex & Diplo Present Jack U	26	5
77	79	89	DRAKE	▲	Nothing Was The Same	1	76
79	74	90	JOURNEY	◆	Journey's Greatest Hits	10	349
90	82	91	EMINEM	◆	The Eminem Show	1	208
83	83	92	ARCTIC MONKEYS	●	AM	6	81
47	70	93	JESSIE J		Sweet Talker	10	22
58	71	94	VARIOUS ARTISTS		2015 Grammy Nominees	9	10
73	91	95	JEREMY CAMP		I Will Follow	25	8
-	8	96	MARINA AND THE DIAMONDS		FROOT	8	2
NEW		97	CANAAN SMITH		Canaan Smith (EP)	97	1
NEW		98	TOTO		Toto XIV	98	1
93	93	99	DRAKE	▲	Take Care	1	108
95	87	100	THE WEEKND	▲	Trilogy	4	56



Kidz Bop Charts 50th Hit

On Kid Albums, the ever-popular *Kidz Bop Kids* series collects its 50th chart entry as *Kidz Bop 28* bows at No. 1 (see chart, page 54).

It's the 30th No. 1 for the kid-friendly covers series on the children's music chart. While there are 28 numbered volumes in the *Kidz Bop Kids* line, the brand has launched genre-specific efforts like *Kidz Bop Christmas!* — much like how the *Now That's What I Call Music!* line has its own numbered sets and thematic titles (such as *Now Christmas* and *Now That's What I Call Movies*).

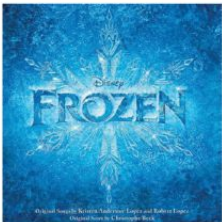
On the Billboard 200, *Kidz Bop 28* starts at No. 10 with 40,000 units sold in the week ending March 29, according to Nielsen Music.

It marks the 21st top 10 effort for the series. The brand's first visit to the top 10 came in 2005 with the No. 7-peaking *Kidz Bop 7*. All of the brand's numbered albums since then (except for *Kidz Bop 17*) have reached the top 10.

In total, the *Kidz Bop Kids* brand has sold 15.5 million albums. In 2014 alone, it moved 848,000 albums — more than such top-selling acts as **Katy Perry** (769,000), **Ariana Grande** (689,000) and **Nicki Minaj** (351,000).

The biggest seller is the first *Kidz Bop Kids* album, released in 2001, with 959,000 sold.

—Keith Caulfield



Frozen's 4 Million Served

The *Frozen* phenomenon continues, as the soundtrack surpasses the 4 million sales mark. The Walt Disney Records release, featuring the top 10 Billboard Hot 100 hit "Let It Go," sold another 6,000 copies in the week ending March 29, according to Nielsen Music. Its cumulative total rises to 4.002 million.

The set spent 13 nonconsecutive weeks at No. 1 on the Billboard 200, and moves 50-59 in its 70th week on the list.

It's now one of only 15 soundtracks to have sold at least 4 million since Nielsen began tracking sales data in 1991. It's the most recently released soundtrack to reach the sales milestone since 2006's *High School Musical*.

The top-selling soundtrack of the Nielsen era is the **Whitney Houston**-led *The Bodyguard* (12.2 million), followed by *Titanic* (10.2 million) and *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* (7.9 million).















A sequel to *Frozen* is in the works, as is a stage musical adaptation. In other *Frozen* news, the recent short film *Frozen Fever* premiered in movie theaters prior to screenings of the live-action *Cinderella* film. It featured the new song "Making Today a Perfect Day," which hasn't turned into a "Let It Go"-size hit. The new track has moved just 27,000 downloads versus the 3.9 million copies sold of "Let It Go."














—Keith Caulfield

2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST	CERTIFICATION	TITLE	PEAK POS.	WKS. ON CHART
91	92	101	EMINEM	WEB/SHADY/AFTERMATH/INTERSCOPE/IGA	The Marshall Mathers LP 2	1	73
RE-ENTRY	102		MERCYME	FAIR TRADE/PLG	Welcome To The New	4	32
			Sales of the album along West Coast stops on its concert tour pump the set to its largest sales week (5,000; up 96 percent) since the frame ending Dec. 21, 2014 (7,000).				
NEW	103		SOCIAL CLUB	SOCIAL CLUB	Us	103	1
			The Christian hip-hop duo debuts at No. 3 on Top Christian Albums — and is not to be confused with the venerable Buena Vista Social Club, which bows at No. 2 on Top Latin Albums with <i>Lost and Found</i> .				
-	200	104	ODESZA	FOREIGN FAMILY COLLECTIVE/COUNTER	In Return	42	4
109	99	105	ADELE	XL/COLUMBIA		21	1
85	81	106	CHRIS BROWN	RCA		X	2
98	98	107	BRUNO MARS	ATLANTIC/AG	Unorthodox Jukebox	1	113
50	78	108	G-EAZY	G-EAZY/RVG/BPG	These Things Happen	3	37
RE-ENTRY	109		LINDSEY STIRLING	LINDSEYSTOMP	Shatter Me	2	32
RE-ENTRY	110		ONE DIRECTION	SYCO/COLUMBIA	Midnight Memories	1	68
122	121	111	5 SECONDS OF SUMMER	HEY OR HI/CAPITOL	5 Seconds Of Summer	1	36
76	95	112	FALL OUT BOY	DECAYDANCE/ISLAND	Save Rock And Roll	1	101
100	108	113	QUEEN	HOLLYWOOD	Greatest Hits: We Will Rock You	42	35
106	109	114	LEE BRICE	CURB	I Dont Dance	5	29
136	122	115	KENNY CHESNEY	BLUE CHAIR/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE/SMN	The Big Revival	2	27
32	59	116	BRANDI CARLILE	ATO	The Firewatcher's Daughter	9	4
80	129	117	CASTING CROWNS	CRACKER BARREL/BEACH STREET/REUNION/PLG	Glorious Day: Hymns Of Faith	52	4
31	88	118	SHEPPARD	EMPIRE OF SONG/CHUGG/DECCA/SCHOOLBOY/REPUBLIC	Bombs Away	31	3
112	110	119	GUNS N' ROSES	GEFFEN/UME	Greatest Hits	3	308
97	101	120	JOHN LEGEND	G.O.O.D./COLUMBIA	Love In The Future	4	80
99	112	121	BLAKE SHELTON	WARNER BROS. NASHVILLE/WMN	BRINGING BACK THE SUNSHINE	1	26
NEW	122		CHON	SUMERIAN	Grow	122	1

2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST	CERTIFICATION	TITLE	PEAK POS.	WKS. ON CHART
89	89	123	BOB DYLAN	COLUMBIA	Shadows In The Night	7	8
84	100	124	ROBIN SCHULZ	TONSPIEL/ATLANTIC/AG	Prayer	42	16
87	113	125	G UNIT	G UNIT	The Beast (EP)	27	4
92	105	126	WIZ KHALIFA	ROSTRUM/ATLANTIC/AG	Blacc Hollywood	1	32
86	106	127	ELLIE GOULDING	CHERRYTREE/INTERSCOPE/IGA	Halcyon	9	87
36	103	128	CHILDISH GAMBINO	GLASSNOTE	Because The Internet	7	65
102	104	129	MAROON 5	A&M/OCTONE/UME	Songs About Jane	6	142
150	117	130	EAGLES	WARNER STRATEGIC MARKETING/RHINO	The Very Best Of The Eagles	3	141
103	125	131	EMINEM	SHADY/AFTERMATH/INTERSCOPE/IGA	Curtain Call: The Hits	1	234
131	119	132	MILKY CHANCE	LICHTDICH/NEON/REPUBLIC	Sadnecessary	17	23
62	86	133	LED ZEPPELIN	SWAN SONG/ATLANTIC/RHINO	Physical Graffiti	1	47
163	154	134	PINK FLOYD	PARLOPHONE/RHINO	The Dark Side Of The Moon	1	900
135	120	135	DIERKS BENTLEY	CAPITOL NASHVILLE/UMGN	Riser	6	54
128	135	136	BRANTLEY GILBERT	VALORY/BMLG	Just As I Am	2	45
191	155	137	OMARION	MAYBACH/ATLANTIC/AG	Sex Playlist	49	6
110	116	138	LORDE	LAVA/REPUBLIC	Pure Heroine	3	78
124	134	139	KATY PERRY	CAPITOL	Teenage Dream	1	204
188	127	140	2PAC	AMARU/DEATH ROW/INTERSCOPE/UME	Greatest Hits	3	89
157	158	141	CHRIS TOMLIN	SIXSTEPS/SPARROW/CAPITOL CMG	Love Ran Red	8	17
127	130	142	AC/DC	COLUMBIA/LEGACY	Back In Black	4	171
111	126	143	PHARRELL WILLIAMS	I AM OTHER/COLUMBIA	G I R L	2	54
NEW	144		STRUNG OUT	FAT WRECK CHORDS	Transmission.Alpha.Delta	144	1
			It's the highest-charting album yet from the rock band — it previously ranked as high as No. 185 with 2002's <i>An American Paradox</i> . The act has charted on <i>Billboard</i> 's various lists since the late '90s.				
126	162	145	SOUNDTRACK	UME	Pitch Perfect	3	111
RE-ENTRY	146		SOUNDTRACK	WALT DISNEY	Into The Woods	8	11
			The home-video release of the film on March 24 pushes the soundtrack back onto the list (4,000 units; up 63 percent).				

The week's most popular albums across all genres, ranked by album sales, audio on-demand streaming activity and digital sales of tracks from albums, according to Nielsen Music. See Chart Legend on billboard.com/biz for complete rules and explanations.
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2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST IMPRINT/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	CERTIFICATION	TITLE	PEAK POS.	WKS.ON CHART
158	156	147	FIVE FINGER DEATH PUNCH 	PROSPECT PARK	The Wrong Side Of Heaven...Volume 1	2	60
NEW		148	LAURA MARLING RIBBON		Short Movie	148	1
133	139	149	MICHAEL JACKSON 	MJJ/EPIC/LEGACY	Number Ones	13	204
167	115	150	CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL 	FANTASY/CONCORD	Chronicle The 20 Greatest Hits	22	221
187	168	151	METALLICA 	BLACKENED/WARNER BROS.	Metallica	1	340
140	147	152	KEVIN GATES	BREAD WINNERS' ASSOCIATION/GANGSTA GRILLZ/ATLANTIC/AG	Luca Brasi 2: A Gangsta Grillz Special Edition	38	15
RE-ENTRY		153	YOU+ME DINE ALONE/RCA		rose ave.	4	8
125	138	154	TREY SONGZ SONGBOOK/ATLANTIC/AG		Trigga	1	39
-	18	155	PASSION SIXSTEPS/SPARROW/CAPITOL CMG		Even So Come	18	2
134	140	156	JOHNNY CASH 	LEGACY/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE/AMERICAN/ISLAND/UME	The Legend Of Johnny Cash	5	211
-	145	157	BANKS HARVEST		Goddess	12	13
104	124	158	ELLA HENDERSON SYCO/COLUMBIA		Chapter One	11	11
141	152	159	JASON DERULO BELUGA HEIGHTS/WARNER BROS.		Talk Dirty	4	48
169	170	160	TIM MCGRAW 	CURB	Number One Hits	27	99
151	159	161	TAYLOR SWIFT 	BIG MACHINE/BMLG	Red	1	102
148	151	162	CASTING CROWNS BEACH STREET/REUNION/PLG		Thrive	6	57
139	150	163	BLAKE SHELTON 	WARNER BROS. NASHVILLE/WMN	Based On A True Story ...	3	105
130	153	164	METALLICA 	BLACKENED/WARNER BROS.	Master Of Puppets	29	76
132	141	165	LUKE BRYAN 	CAPITOL NASHVILLE/UMGN	Tailgates & Tanlines	2	183
181	171	166	BOB SEGER & THE SILVER BULLET BAND 	HIDEOUT/CAPITOL/UME	Ultimate Hits	19	93
33	102	167	D'ANGELO AND THE VANGUARD RCA		Black Messiah	5	15
-	128	168	FOO FIGHTERS ROSWELL/RCA		Greatest Hits	11	89
179	161	169	CHRIS YOUNG RCA NASHVILLE/SMN		A.M.	3	28
156	186	170	BASTILLE VIRGIN/CAPITOL		Bad Blood	11	82
173	174	171	LANA DEL REY 	POLYDOR/INTERSCOPE/IGA	Ultraviolence	1	41
172	177	172	EMINEM 	WEB/SHADY/AFTERMATH/INTERSCOPE/IGA	Recovery	1	183
119	160	173	KID INK THA ALUMNI GROUP/88 CLASSIC/RCA		Full Speed	14	8
-	84	174	ELLE KING RCA		Love Stuff	45	3
153	144	175	MAROON 5 	A&M/OCTONE/IGA	Overexposed	2	93

2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST IMPRINT/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	CERTIFICATION	TITLE	PEAK POS.	WKS.ON CHART
155	172	176	MICHAEL JACKSON 	MJJ/EPIC/LEGACY	Bad	1	109
178	179	177	LYNYRD SKYNYRD Geffen/HIP-O/UME		Family	154	25
RE-ENTRY		178	P!NK 	LAFACE/JIVE/RCA	Greatest Hits... So Far!!!	5	103
176	182	179	TRAVIS TRITT WARNER BROS. NASHVILLE/RHINO		The Very Best Of Travis Tritt	124	15
165	185	180	KID ROCK 	TOP DOG/LAVA/ATLANTIC/AG	Devil Without A Cause	4	104
-	52	181	MATT MAHER ESSENTIAL/PLG		Saints And Sinners	52	2
RE-ENTRY		182	LED ZEPPELIN 	ATLANTIC	Led Zeppelin IV	2	287
RE-ENTRY		183	50 CENT 	SHADY/AFTERMATH/INTERSCOPE/UME	Get Rich Or Die Tryin'	1	100
NEW		184	21:03 PAJAM		Outsiders (EP)	184	1
192	198	185	VARIOUS ARTISTS PROVIDENT/WORD-CURB/CAPITOL CMG		WOW Hits 2015	23	25
118	176	186	VARIOUS ARTISTS SONY MUSIC/UNIVERSAL/UME		NOW 52	2	22
RE-ENTRY		187	NIRVANA 	SUB POP/DGC/GEFFEN/UME	Nevermind	1	289
RE-ENTRY		188	ONE DIRECTION 	SYCO/COLUMBIA	Take Me Home	1	72
RE-ENTRY		189	ELTON JOHN 	ROCKET/MERCURY/UME	Goodbye Yellow Brick Road	1	110
68	131	190	DIANA KRALL VERVE/VG		Wallflower	10	8
160	189	191	NICKELBACK 	ROADRUNNER/AG	Dark Horse	2	161
60	97	192	SOUNDTRACK WALT DISNEY		Cinderella	60	3
RE-ENTRY		193	ONE DIRECTION 	SYCO/COLUMBIA	Up All Night	1	103
<div><p>In the wake of the March 25 announcement of the group's Zayn Malik leaving the band, 1D's album catalog grew in traditional sales by 67 percent to 12,000 copies in the week ending March 29.</p><p>—Keith Caulfield</p></div>							
146	178	194	SELENA GOMEZ HOLLYWOOD		For You	24	18
-	90	195	CHARLES JENKINS & FELLOWSHIP CHICAGO INSPIRED PEOPLE/MOTOWN GOSPEL/CAPITOL CMG		Any Given Sunday	90	2
RE-ENTRY		196	RIXTON SCHOOLBOY/GIANT LITTLE MAN/MAD LOVE/INTERSCOPE/IGA		Let The Road	32	2
-	194	197	MICHAEL JACKSON 	EPIC/LEGACY	The Essential Michael Jackson	53	127
121	143	198	JUAN GABRIEL FONOVIS/UMLE		Los Duo	25	7
RE-ENTRY		199	FLEETWOOD MAC 	WARNER BROS./RHINO	Rumours	1	197
143	181	200	NICKELBACK REPUBLIC		No Fixed Address	4	19



Q&A James Bay

After releasing four EPs, you finally put out your debut LP, *Chaos and the Calm*, which debuts at No. 15 on the Billboard 200. Did you take a different approach to recording it?

I recorded the first EP [2013's *The Dark of Morning*] in a day-and-a-half. There aren't many takes to any of it, not many layers musically or sonically. It's mainly acoustic guitar. But I didn't want to come across as a sultry, intimate, single-spotlight balladeer or troubadour. [2014's] *Hold Back the River* EP grows into a bigger, more impactful sound, showing people I like to rock out as much as I like to be heartfelt. I wanted to send people on a journey to get to the album.

What was it like recording in Nashville with producer Jacquire King (*Cold War Kids*, *Kings of Leon*)? Nashville is an incredible place. There's all the country heritage and musical heritage, but 80 percent of it is about what's brand new and cutting edge. I don't want to make it sound like I totally knew exactly what I was doing being in a fancy studio with a Grammy-winning producer; I was a very wide-eyed rabbit in the headlights, small fish in a big pond.

Is it strange singing "Hold Back the River," which you wrote about your first sold-out show on a sold-out tour? The feeling of people singing it back to me is nuts — its own whole incredible thing. Poignant isn't the word — it's bizarre and wonderful. When I started recording my album, there was a little gap I was looking to fill, so I was messing with ideas, and "River" was the last one to be written. It was late to the album-recording party but made it in through the door, and I'm really glad it did.

—Harley Brown

Grand's American Success Story

Singer-songwriter **Steve Grand** (below) — who scored a hit viral video in 2013 with “All-American Boy” — sees his Kickstarter-funded *All American Boy* debut at No. 47 on the Billboard 200, No. 27 on Top Album Sales and No. 3 on Independent Albums. The set sold 10,000 copies in the week ending March 29, according to Nielsen Music.

All American Boy arrived on Grand's own Grand Nation imprint, and is distributed by Brody Distribution Group (through RED).

“I’m blown away! My fans have done it again,” says Grand. “I have believed in this record, and now it’s clear a lot of other people do too. Putting out an album has been my longtime dream, and to have it do so well in just its first week is phenomenal.”

It’s the first chart entry for the artist, who has collected nearly 4 million views for his self-financed “All-American Boy” video. The clip featured Grand in a gay-themed storyline that was inspired by the out artist’s own life. When the video went viral, the unsigned Grand also didn’t have a manager or publicist, but quickly found himself getting news coverage from BuzzFeed, ABC’s *Good Morning America*, the Associated Press and *Billboard*.

The success of the video led to the still-indie Grand setting up a Kickstarter campaign to fund his debut album. The appeal generated \$327,000 from 4,905 backers and is the fourth-most-funded music project in Kickstarter history, behind campaigns from **Amanda Palmer, Carman** and **TLC**.

—Keith Caulfield



Album Sales

April 11 2015 billboard

TOP ALBUM SALES™					
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST	CERTIFICATION IMPRINT/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	WKS. ON CHART
1	1	#1 2 WKS KENDRICK LAMAR	TOP DAWG/AFTERMATH/INTERSCOPE/IGA	To Pimp A Butterfly	2
2	2	SOUNDTRACK	Empire: Original Soundtrack From Season 1 20TH CENTURY FOX TV/COLUMBIA		3
HOT SHOT DEBUT	3	ACTION BRONSON	VICE/ATLANTIC/AG	Mr. Wonderful	1
NEW	4	KIDZ BOP KIDS	RAZOR & TIE	Kidz Bop 28	1
7	5	TAYLOR SWIFT ▲	BIG MACHINE/BMIG	1989	22
14	6	SAM SMITH ▲	CAPITOL	In The Lonely Hour	41
NEW	7	EARL SWAYTSHIRT	I Don't Like Shit, I Don't Go Outside: An Album By Earl Sweatshirt TAN CRESSIDA/COLUMBIA		1
12	8	ED SHEERAN ▲	ATLANTIC/AG		X
10	9	SOUNDTRACK	Universal Studios/REPUBLIC	Fifty Shades Of Grey	7
NEW	10	COURTNEY BARNETT	Sometimes I Sit And Think, And Sometimes I Just Sit. MILK/HOUSE ANXIETY/MARATHON ARTISTS/MOM + POP		1
NEW	11	VAN MORRISON	RCA	Duets: Re-Working The Catalogue	1
NEW	12	JAMES BAY	REPUBLIC	Chaos And The Calm	1
16	13	MEGHAN TRAINOR	EPIC	Title	11
13	14	DRAKE	YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	If You're Reading This It's Too Late	7
8	15	LUKE BRYAN	CAPITOL NASHVILLE/UMGN	Spring Break... Checkin' Out	3
17	16	VARIOUS ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL/SONY MUSIC/LEGACY	NOW 53	8
19	17	MAROON 5	222/INTERSCOPE/IGA		V
22	18	IMAGINE DRAGONS	KIDINAKORNER/INTERSCOPE/IGA	Smoke + Mirrors	6
3	19	MODEST MOUSE	EPIC	Strangers To Ourselves	2
20	20	SAM HUNT	MCA NASHVILLE/UMGN	Montevallo	22
NEW	21	JOE BONAMASSA	J & R ADVENTURES	Muddy Wolf At Red Rocks	1
NEW	22	VARIOUS ARTISTS	ABC STUDIOS/LIONS GATE/BIG MACHINE/BMIG	Nashville: On The Record, Volume 2	1
18	23	BIG SEAN	G.O.O.D./DEF JAM	Dark Sky Paradise	5
15	24	MADONNA	LIVE NATION/INTERSCOPE/IGA	Rebel Heart	3
24	25	HOZIER ●	RUBYNWORKS/COLUMBIA	Hozier	25
27	26	FALL OUT BOY	DCD2/ISLAND	American Beauty / American Psycho	10
NEW	27	STEVE GRAND	GRAND NATION/BDG	All American Boy	1
25	28	J. COLE ●	DREAMVILLE/ROC NATION/COLUMBIA	2014 Forest Hills Drive	16
28	29	SOUNDTRACK ▲	MARVEL/HOLLYWOOD	Guardians Of The Galaxy: Awesome Mix Vol. 1	35
23	30	KID ROCK	TOP DOG/WARNER BROS.	First Kiss	5
NEW	31	SOUNDTRACK	DREAMWORKS/WESTBURY ROAD/ROC NATION	Home	1
RE	32	BJORK	ONE LITTLE INDIAN	Vulnicura	3
NEW	33	VARIOUS ARTISTS	ZINEPAK	2015 Academy Of Country Music Awards ZinePak	1
26	34	KELLY CLARKSON	19/RCA	Piece By Piece	4
29	35	KIDZ BOP KIDS	RAZOR & TIE	Kidz Bop 27	11
32	36	ECHOSMITH	WARNER BROS.	Talking Dreams	13
NEW	37	KANSAS	EPIC/LEGACY	Miracles Out Of Nowhere (Soundtrack)	1
5	38	MARK KNOPFLER	WILL D. SIDE/BRITISH GROVE/MERCURY/VERVE/VG	Tracker	2
6	39	SLEEPING WITH SIRENS	EPITAPH	Madness	2
30	40	NICKI MINAJ ●	YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	The Pinkprint	15
21	41	SOUNDTRACK	UNIVERSAL STUDIOS/ATLANTIC/AG	Furious 7	2
37	42	JASON ALDEAN ▲	BROKEN BOW/BBMG	Old Boots, New Dirt	25
9	43	AWOLNATION	RED BULL	Run	2
65	44	ONE DIRECTION ▲	SYCO/COLUMBIA	FOUR	19
34	45	THIRD DAY	ESSENTIAL/PLG	Lead Us Back: Songs Of Worship	4
38	46	SOUNDTRACK ▲	WALT DISNEY	Frozen	70
89	47	GEORGE EZRA	COLUMBIA	Wanted On Voyage	4
40	48	FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE ●	REPUBLIC NASHVILLE/BMIG	Anything Goes	24
NEW	49	JULION ALVAREZ Y SU NORTEÑO BANDA	FONOVISA/UMLE	Aferrado	1
RE	50	LITTLE BIG TOWN	CAPITOL NASHVILLE/UMGN	Pain Killer	9

HEATSEEKERS ALBUMS™					
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST	CERTIFICATION IMPRINT/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	WKS. ON CHART
NEW	1	#1 1 WK CHON	SUMERIAN	Grow	1
NEW	2	STRUNG OUT	FAT WRECK CHORDS	Transmission.Alpha.Delta	1
NEW	3	WHITEHORSE	SIX SHOOTER	Leave No Bridge Unburned	1
NEW	4	JEFF THE BROTHERHOOD	INFINITY CAT	Wasted On The Dream	1
2	5	SETH AVETT & JESSICA LEA MAYFIELD	RAMSEUR	Avett Mayfield Sing Elliott Smith	2
NEW	6	STRIKING MATCHES	I.R.S. NASHVILLE/CAPITOL	Nothing But The Silence	1
1	7	HOUDMOUTH	ROUGH TRADE	Little Neon Limelight	2
14	8	GG	WORD-CURB/WARNER BROS.	About A Mile	14
15	9	VERIDIA	WORD-CURB/WARNER BROS.	Inseparable (EP)	14
NEW	10	THE JON SPENCER BLUES EXPLOSION	MOM + POP	"Freedom Tower" No Wave Dance Party 2015	1
NEW	11	LIGHTNING BOLT	THRILL JOCKEY	Fantasy Empire	1
10	12	HALSEY	ASTRALWERKS	Room 93 (EP)	5
11	13	GLASS ANIMALS	WOLF TONE/HARVEST	Zaba	38
3	14	YEARS & YEARS	POLYDOR/INTERSCOPE/IGA	Y & Y EP	3
NEW	15	NELLIE MCKAY	429/SLG	My Weekly Reader	1
4	16	CATFISH AND THE BOTTLEMEN	COMMUNION	The Balcony	9
13	17	JAMES MCMURTRY	COMPLIATED GAME	Complicated Game	5
NEW	18	MINI MANSIONS	ELECTRO MAGNETIC/CAPITOL	The Great Pretenders	1
NEW	19	RAPPER BIG POOH	MELLO	Words Paint Pictures	1
7	20	FATHER RAY KELLY	MANHATTAN	Where I Belong	2
5	21	MARCUS MILLER	HANNIBAL/BLUE NOTE	Afrodeezia	2
NEW	22	NIYAZ	SIX DEGREES	Fourth Light	1
NEW	23	THE GO! TEAM	MEMPHIS INDUSTRIES	The Scene Between	1
16	24	BLANCA	WORD-CURB/WARNER BROS.	Who I Am (EP)	11
NEW	25	PASSAFIRE	EASY STAR	Interval (EP)	1

KID ALBUMS™					
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST	CERTIFICATION IMPRINT/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	WKS. ON CHART
NEW	1	#1 1 WK KIDZ BOP KIDS	RAZOR & TIE	Kidz Bop 28	1
NEW	2	SOUNDTRACK	DREAMWORKS/WESTBURY ROAD/ROC NATION	Home	1
1	3	KIDZ BOP KIDS	RAZOR & TIE	Kidz Bop 27	11
2	4	SOUNDTRACK ▲	WALT DISNEY	Frozen	8
5	5	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WALT DISNEY	Disney Junior: DJ Shuffle 2	7
4	6	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WALT DISNEY	Disney Karaoke Series: Frozen (EP)	50
3	7	SOUNDTRACK	WALT DISNEY	Liv And Maddie	2
6	8	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WALT DISNEY	Children's Favorites: Volume 1: 30 Classic Tunes	299
7	9	KIDZ BOP KIDS	RAZOR & TIE	Kidz Bop 26	37
9	10	VARIOUS ARTISTS	SONY MUSIC/UNIVERSAL/WALT DISNEY	NOW That's What I Call Disney 3	22
11	11	KIDS CHOIR	STAR SONG/CAPITOL CMG	51 Songs Kids Really Love To Sing + 24 Bonus Songs	24
8	12	SOUNDTRACK	DISNEY JUNIOR/WALT DISNEY	Disney Junior: Mickey Mouse Clubhouse	73
10	13	VARIOUS ARTISTS	DISNEY JUNIOR/WALT DISNEY	Disney Junior: DJ Shuffle	52
12	14	VARIOUS ARTISTS ▲	MUSIC FOR LITTLE PEOPLE/RHINO	Toddler Favorites	376
14	15	VARIOUS ARTISTS	SONY MUSIC/UNIVERSAL/WALT DISNEY/UME	NOW That's What I Call Disney 2	71
13	16	VARIOUS ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL/EMI/SONY MUSIC/WALT DISNEY/UME	NOW That's What I Call Disney	124
17	17	VARIOUS ARTISTS ▲	WALT DISNEY	Disney's Greatest: Vol. 1	588
16	18	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WALT DISNEY	Disney Princess: The Ultimate Song Collection	422
18	19	KIDZ BOP KIDS	RAZOR & TIE	Kidz Bop 25	63
21	20	THE COUNTDOWN KIDS	SONOMA	50 Silly Songs	160
15	21	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WALT DISNEY	Disney Princess: Fairy Tale Songs	174
23	22	CEDARMONT KIDS	CEDARMONT KIDS/CEDARMONT/PLG	Easter Favorites	29
22	23	VARIOUS ARTISTS ●	WALT DISNEY	Disney's Greatest: Vol. 2	325
20	24	CEDARMONT KIDS	CEDARMONT KIDS/CEDARMONT/PLG	100 Sing-Along-Songs For Kids	41
19	25	THE COUNTDOWN KIDS	SONOMA	50 Sing Along Songs For Kids	73



Chon, Big Data Debut

Rock band **Chon** debuts at No. 1 on Heatseekers Albums as its first full-length effort, *Grow*, launches with 5,000 copies sold in the week ending March 29, according to Nielsen Music. The quartet — **Mario Camarena, Nathan Camarena, Erick Hansel** and **Drew Pelisek** — will tour with **Circa Survive** through May 3, and then support **The Contortionist** until May 30. Chon first hit the Heatseekers chart in 2014 with its *WooHoo!* EP (peaking at No. 8).

Former Heatseekers act **Big Data**'s new album *2.0* arrives at No. 75 on the Billboard 200. The act (aka **Alan Wilkis**) broke through in 2014 with the No. 1 Alternative hit “Dangerous,” and reached No. 50 on Heatseekers Albums with the *1.0* EP.

“Dangerous” topped the Alternative chart on Aug. 16, 2014 and spent a full year on the list. (It was so successful during its chart run that it finished 2014 as the year-end No. 5 Alternative song.)

The new album, which sold 5,000 copies in the week ending March 29, includes “Dangerous” and current single “The Business of Emotion.” The latter, which features vocalist **White Sea**, climbs 37-35 on Alternative in its third week.

Big Data was featured as an act to watch in *Billboard*'s Tomorrow's Hits column (March 15, 2014) two weeks before “Dangerous” debuted on the Alternative chart.

—Keith Caulfield

TOP ALBUM SALES: The week's top-selling albums across all genres, ranked by sales data as compiled by Nielsen Music. HEATSEEKERS ALBUMS: The week's top-selling albums by new or developing acts, defined as those who have never appeared in the top 100 of the Billboard 200 or the top 10 of Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums, Top Country Albums, Top Latin Albums, Christian Albums or Gospel Albums, if a title reaches any of those levels, it and the act's subsequent albums are then ineligible to appear on Heatseekers Albums. Titles are ranked by sales data as compiled by Nielsen Music. See Charts Legend on billboard.com/biz for complete rules and explanations. © 2015, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.

Kehlani Serves Up A ‘Taste’

Kehlani soars in as the top debut (at No. 2) on the Billboard + Twitter Emerging Artists chart after debuting new song “How That Taste” on her SoundCloud page on March 26. The rising R&B star from Oakland, Calif. — who previously appeared on the Emerging Artists chart dated Nov. 15, 2014, with “Til the Morning” — is readying the release of her first full-length, *You Should Be Here*. The set is available for preorder on iTunes and is expected to arrive April 28.

Los Angeles rock band **Mini Mansions** debuts at No. 4 on Emerging Artists with “Vertigo,” powered by buzz surrounding the release of the track’s official video on March 24. The single features **Alex Turner** of **Arctic Monkeys**, who tweeted about the song from his band’s Twitter account, helping to attracting additional attention for the single.

Shamir Bailey (who goes by only his first name) also makes a notable debut, at No. 15, on Emerging Artists with “Call It Off,” after its music video premiered as part of the YouTube Awards, which aired on the platform on March 23. The 20-year-old, who taught himself to play guitar while growing up in the desert landscape outside Las Vegas, was YouTube’s spotlight emerging talent for the awards show, and host **Tyler Oakley** predicted that 2015 “is going to be his year.” —William Gruger






BILLBOARD TWITTER TOP TRACKS: The week's most shared songs on Twitter in the U.S., ranked by the volume of shares. **BILLBOARD TWITTER EMERGING ARTISTS:** The week's most shared songs on Twitter in the U.S. by up-and-coming artists (defined as artists with fewer than 50,000 Twitter followers who have also not as a lead artist in the top 50 songs on the *Billboard* Hot 100), ranked by the number of shares. All charts © 2015, Prometheus Global Media, LLC. All rights reserved.

Social

April 11 2015

billboard

billboard +  TOP TRENDS™			PRESENTED BY 	
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE	Artist	WKS. ON CHART
NEW	1	 B**** BETTER HAVE MY MONEY	Rihanna	1
7	2	WORTH IT	Fifth Harmony Feat. Kid Ink	4
1	3	LOVE ME LIKE YOU DO	Ellie Goulding	12
2	4	THINKING OUT LOUD	Ed Sheeran	33
NEW	5	G.O.M.D.	J. Cole	1
9	6	TO U	Skrillex & Diplo Feat. AlunaGeorge	5
3	7	SUGAR	Maroon 5	11
NEW	8	SPACES	One Direction	1
23	9	NIGHT CHANGES	One Direction	22
RE	10	BABY BLUE	Action Bronson Feat. Chance The Rapper	2
NEW	11	DEAD INSIDE	Muse	1
17	12	STEAL MY GIRL	One Direction	26
11	13	UPTOWN FUNK!	Mark Ronson Feat. Bruno Mars	20
NEW	14	FEEL IT ALL	Tokio Hotel	1
RE	15	LEAN ON	Major Lazer X DJ Snake Feat. MO	2
24	16	FEEL THE LIGHT	Jennifer Lopez	2
21	17	ONE LAST TIME	Ariana Grande	9
NEW	18	DON'T FORGET WHERE YOU BELONG	One Direction	1
14	19	FOURFIVESECONDS	Rihanna & Kanye West & Paul McCartney	10
10	20	I WANT YOU TO KNOW	Zedd Feat. Selena Gomez	5
RE	21	WORK SONG	Hozier	2
12	22	STYLE	Taylor Swift	17
39	23	LOVE ME HARDER	Ariana Grande & The Weeknd	28
15	24	BLANK SPACE	Taylor Swift	22
RE	25	BANG BANG	Jessie J, Ariana Grande & Nicki Minaj	28
6	26	I REALLY LIKE YOU	Carly Rae Jepsen	4
NEW	27	KNOCK THA HUSTLE	Cozz	1
16	28	EARNED IT (FIFTY SHADES OF GREY)	The Weeknd	14
NEW	29	FAMOUS	Charli XCX	1
NEW	30	THE SUMMER LEAGUE	Wale Feat. Kanye West & Ty Dolla \$ign	1
RE	31	OFTEN	The Weeknd	10
NEW	32	TAKE FLIGHT	Lindsey Stirling	1
RE	33	40 MILL	Tyga	2
27	34	SHAKE IT OFF	Taylor Swift	32
25	35	WANT TO WANT ME	Jason Derulo	3
RE	36	TRAMPOLINE	Kalin And Myles	2
NEW	37	THE NIGHT IS STILL YOUNG	Nicki Minaj	1
RE	38	AYO	Chris Brown & Tyga	11
NEW	39	GHOST TOWN	Adam Lambert	1
18	40	I BET	Ciara	6
35	41	HEY MAMA	David Guetta Feat. Nicki Minaj & Afrojack	3
NEW	42	LIKE ME	Lil Durk Featuring Jeremih	1
40	43	TROUBLE	Iggy Azalea Feat. Jennifer Hudson	4
NEW	44	GIBBERISH	MAX Feat. Hoodie Allen	1
RE	45	7/11	Beyonce	16
33	46	ALL DAY	Kanye West Feat. Theophilus London, Allan Kingdom & Paul McCartney	6
37	47	LAY ME DOWN	Sam Smith	2
NEW	48	CAN'T DENY MY LOVE	Brandon Flowers	1
RE	49	REBEL HEART	Madonna	5
42	50	OUTSIDE	Calvin Harris Feat. Ellie Goulding	17

billboard +  EMERGING ARTISTS™				PRESENTED BY 
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE	Artist	WKS. ON CHART
RE	1	 KNOCK THA HUSTLE	Cozz	2
NEW	2	HOW THAT TASTE	Kehlani	1
3	3	KING	Years & Years	11
NEW	4	VERTIGO	Mini Mansions Feat. Alex Turner	1
2	5	RUNAWAY (U & I)	Galantis	24
NEW	6	WHITE NOISE	PVRIS	1
NEW	7	PRIMROSE GREEN	Ryley Walker	1
1	8	WONDER WOMAN	LION BABE	2
12	9	HOLD MY HAND	Jess Glynne	5
NEW	10	VERY FIRST BREATH	Hudson Mohawke Feat. Irfane	1
NEW	11	BRING EM OUT	Bodega BAMZ Feat. Flatbush Zombies	1
NEW	12	RUN BABY RUN	Toro y Moi	1
RE	13	U GUESSED IT	OG Maco Feat.g 2 Chainz	25
13	14	MY JAM	Bobby Brackins Feat. Zendaya & Jeremih	5
NEW	15	CALL IT OFF	Shamir	1
5	16	ADORE	Cashmere Cat Featuring Ariana Grande	4
NEW	17	THE GREATEST	Futuristic	1
NEW	18	KEEP IT EASY	AllanKingdom	1
RE	19	MULTI-LOVE	Unknown Mortal Orchestra	4
NEW	20	STAY GOLD	of Verona	1
11	21	WALK	Kwabs	28
22	22	PEDESTRIAN AT BEST	Courtney Barnett	9
RE	23	IT'S NOT MY FAULT	Anthony Lewis Featuring T.I.	3
19	24	FREAKS	Timmy Trumpet And Savage	22
9	25	ENAMORATE	Dvicio	2
NEW	26	HIGHER	Sigma Featuring Labrinth	1
NEW	27	LONG WAY DOWN	Robert DeLong	1
RE	28	MIND RIGHT	TK-N-Cash	3
NEW	29	SUNDAY	JoeyFATTS	1
30	30	WISH YOU WERE MINE	Philip George	8
33	31	HYPNOTIC	Zella Day	6
21	32	WHEN THE BEAT DROPS OUT	Marlon Roudette	8
RE	33	DON'T	Bryson Tiller	6
41	34	SURRENDER	Cash Cash	8
29	35	DESIRE	Years & Years	15
48	36	SUNGLASSES	Lindiwe Suttle	2
RE	37	COMING HOME	Leon Bridges	4
RE	38	YOU	Galantis	6
4	39	WORSHIP	Years & Years	2
NEW	40	HOLDING ON TO WHAT HURTS	Tourist	1
47	41	OH ALLEN	The Relationship	4
8	42	DEPRESTON	Courtney Barnett	4
RE	43	ALL ABOUT THE MONEY	Troy Ave Feat. Yung Lito & Manolo Rose	13
NEW	44	FINER TASTE	Mr Bigz Feat. Wretch 32	1
50	45	NOBODY TO LOVE	Sigma	30
RE	46	SMILE	Mikky Ekko	6
45	47	THE RHYTHM	MNEK	4
RE	48	JUSTO AHORA	Dvicio	5
RE	49	TAKE SHELTER	Years & Years	10
NEW	50	WHEN I WAS DONE DYING	Dan Deacon	1



1D Exit Stirs Social Charts

One Direction (above) has had quite the week on *Billboard*’s social charts after **Zayn Malik**’s departure from the group was announced on March 25. The news broke on 1D’s official Facebook page in a post that received more than 750,000 likes through April 1. The swell in activity sends the group straight to the top 10 of the Social 50 chart (22-6 — its highest rank since the Jan. 3 chart) with across-the-board increases in nearly every metric, including a 191 percent increase in fan acquisition overall and more than 1 million mentions on Twitter (up 214 percent from the previous week).

There were more than 10.3 million tweets about Malik and 1D on March 25 alone, and so much activity in general that two new 1D tracks debut on the weekly *Billboard* + Twitter Top Tracks chart. “Don’t Forget Where You Belong” comes in at No. 18, while “Spaces,” a song that was shared specifically for Malik’s line — “Who’s gonna be the first to say goodbye?” — comes in at No. 8 after spending more than two hours in at No. 1 on the real-time *Billboard* + Twitter Trending 140 chart. Malik himself is primed to make his solo debut on a weekly chart in the April 18 issue, as a demo of his song “I Won’t Mind” hit No. 1 on the real-time chart on March 30.

—W.G.

SOCIAL 50™			
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST IMPRINT/LABEL	WKS. ON CHART
1	1	#1 17 WKS TAYLOR SWIFT BIG MACHINE/BMG	227
2	2	ARIANA GRANDE REPUBLIC	123
3	3	JUSTIN BIEBER SCHOOLBOY/RAYMOND BRAUN/DEF JAM	227
6	4	SELENA GOMEZ HOLLYWOOD	225
4	5	RIHANNA WESTBURY ROAD/ROC NATION	216
22	6	ONE DIRECTION SYCO/COLUMBIA	176
5	7	KATY PERRY CAPITOL	227
8	8	NICKI MINAJ YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	226
10	9	MILEY CYRUS RCA	155
11	10	BEYONCE PARKWOOD/COLUMBIA	225
9	11	JENNIFER LOPEZ CAPITOL	213
7	12	JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE RCA	198
14	13	ED SHEERAN ATLANTIC/AG	65
16	14	LADY GAGA STREAMLINE/INTERSCOPE/IGA	225
13	15	DEMI LOVATO HOLLYWOOD	217
15	16	WIZ KHALIFA ROSTRUM/ATLANTIC/AG	214
18	17	LUCY HALE DMG NASHVILLE	39
12	18	DRAKE YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	202
38	19	5 SECONDS OF SUMMER HEY OR HI/CAPITOL	53
20	20	SHAKIRA SONY MUSIC LATIN/RCA	225
RE	21	MARTIN GARRIX SCHOOLBOY/SPINNIN'/SILENT/CASABLANCA/REPUBLIC	46
31	22	MAROON 5 222/INTERSCOPE/IGA	139
27	23	BRUNO MARS ATLANTIC/AG	213
50	24	NICK JONAS SAFEHOUSE/ISLAND	7
21	25	SAM SMITH CAPITOL	32
36	26	IGGY AZALEA TURN FIRST/HUSTLE GANG/DEF JAM	49
26	27	ELLIE GOULDING CHERRYTREE/INTERSCOPE/IGA	82
29	28	MEGHAN TRAINOR EPIC	18
34	29	AUSTIN MAHONE CHASE/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	91
RE	30	ROMEO SANTOS SONY MUSIC LATIN	76
RE	31	CALVIN HARRIS FLY EYE/COLUMBIA	22
30	32	CHRIS BROWN RCA	200
28	33	BIG SEAN G.O.O.D./DEF JAM	14
45	34	THALIA SONY MUSIC LATIN	23
24	35	LIL WAYNE YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	197
35	36	SNOOP DOGG DOGGYSTYLE/COLUMBIA	193
25	37	BLAKE SHELTON WARNER BROS. NASHVILLE/WMN	15
RE	38	LITTLE MIX SYCO/COLUMBIA	48
44	39	BRITNEY SPEARS RCA	199
RE	40	ZENDAYA HOLLYWOOD	35
RE	41	BECKY G KEMOSABE/RCA	23
32	42	PHARRELL WILLIAMS I AM OTHER/COLUMBIA	41
48	43	RITA ORA ROC NATION/COLUMBIA	29
RE	44	SHAWN MENDES ISLAND	16
RE	45	SKRILLEX BIG BEAT/OWSLA/ATLANTIC/AG	133
23	46	KENDRICK LAMAR TOP DAWG/AFTERMATH/INTERSCOPE/IGA	6
RE	47	LUDACRIS DTP/DEF JAM	80
17	48	TYGA YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	23
19	49	KANYE WEST G.O.O.D./ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM	47
RE	50	BOB MARLEY TUFF GONG/ISLAND/UME	164

April 11 2015

Pop/Rhythmic/Adult

billboard

MAINSTREAM TOP 40™			
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	Artist WKS. ON CHART
1	1	#1 3 WKS STYLE BIG MACHINE/REPUBLIC	Taylor Swift 12
2	2	SUGAR 222/INTERSCOPE	Maroon 5 11
6	3	LOVE ME LIKE YOU DO UNIVERSAL STUDIOS/REPUBLIC/INTERSCOPE	Ellie Goulding 11
3	4	THINKING OUT LOUD ATLANTIC	Ed Sheeran 16
4	5	UPTOWN FUNK! Mark Ronson Feat. Bruno Mars RCA	20
5	6	TIME OF OUR LIVES MR. 305/POLO GROUNDS/RCA	Pitbull & Ne-Yo 16
7	7	FOURFIVESECONDS Rihanna & Kanye West & Paul McCartney WESTBURY ROAD/ROC NATION	10
8	8	SOMEBODY I.M.G./REPUBLIC	Natalie La Rose Feat. Jeremih 11
10	9	ONE LAST TIME REPUBLIC	Ariana Grande 7
9	10	OUTSIDE FLY EYE/COLUMBIA	Calvin Harris Feat. Ellie Goulding 12
12	11	I WANT YOU TO KNOW INTERSCOPE	Zedd Feat. Selena Gomez 5
11	12	CHAINS SAFEHOUSE/ISLAND/REPUBLIC	Nick Jonas 10
18	13	GG EARNED IT (FIFTY SHADES OF GREY) UNIVERSAL STUDIOS/REPUBLIC	The Weeknd 6
17	14	WANT TO WANT ME BELUGA HEIGHTS/WARNER BROS.	Jason Derulo 3
16	15	G.D.F.R. POE BOY/ATLANTIC	Flo Rida Feat. Sage The Gemini & Lookas 8
14	16	NIGHT CHANGES SYCO/COLUMBIA	One Direction 18
20	17	NOBODY LOVE CAPITOL	Tori Kelly 7
22	18	RIPTIDE F-STOP/ATLANTIC	Vance Joy 18
21	19	HEARTBEAT SONG 19/RCA	Kelly Clarkson 11
23	20	TALKING BODY ISLAND/REPUBLIC	Tove Lo 10
25	21	LAY ME DOWN CAPITOL	Sam Smith 7
15	22	PRAYER IN C CHOKE INDUSTRY/TONSPiEL/CiNO 7/WARGRAM/ATLANTIC/RRP	Lillywood & Robin Schulz 19
27	23	SHUT UP AND DANCE WALK THE MOON RCA	6
19	24	I DON'T MIND RCA	Usher Feat. Juicy J 15
26	25	TRUFFLE BUTTER YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	Nicki Minaj Feat. Drake & Lil Wayne 8

ADULT CONTEMPORARY™			
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	Artist WKS. ON CHART
1	1	#1 4 WKS THINKING OUT LOUD ATLANTIC	Ed Sheeran 13
2	2	BLANK SPACE BIG MACHINE/REPUBLIC	Taylor Swift 18
4	3	HEARTBEAT SONG 19/RCA	Kelly Clarkson 11
3	4	I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE CAPITOL	Sam Smith 23
6	5	AM I WRONG WARNER BROS.	Nico & Vinz 40
5	6	STAY WITH ME CAPITOL	Sam Smith 42
8	7	GG LIPS ARE MOVIN EPIC	Meghan Trainor 12
10	8	UPTOWN FUNK! RCA	Mark Ronson Feat. Bruno Mars 13
7	9	SHAKE IT OFF BIG MACHINE/REPUBLIC	Taylor Swift 32
9	10	MAPS 222/INTERSCOPE	Maroon 5 39
11	11	ANIMALS 222/INTERSCOPE	Maroon 5 22
12	12	SUGAR 222/INTERSCOPE	Maroon 5 8
13	13	STYLE BIG MACHINE/REPUBLIC	Taylor Swift 7
14	14	TAKE ME TO CHURCH RUBYWORKS/COLUMBIA	Hozier 13
17	15	LOVE ME LIKE YOU DO UNIVERSAL STUDIOS/REPUBLIC/INTERSCOPE	Ellie Goulding 7
15	16	I LIVED MOSLEY/INTERSCOPE	OneRepublic 13
16	17	GHOST SYCO/COLUMBIA	Ella Henderson 11
18	18	RIPTIDE F-STOP/ATLANTIC	Vance Joy 13
19	19	JEALOUS SAFEHOUSE/ISLAND/REPUBLIC	Nick Jonas 12
21	20	GHOSTTOWN LIVE NATION/INTERSCOPE	Madonna 2
22	21	LAY ME DOWN CAPITOL	Sam Smith 3
25	22	I BET MY LIFE KIDINAKORNER/INTERSCOPE	Imagine Dragons 4
20	23	I PUT A SPELL ON YOU LA LENNOXA/BLUE NOTE/CAPITOL	Annie Lennox 5
23	24	RATHER BE ATLANTIC/RRP	Clean Bandit Feat. Jess Glynne 20
27	25	DON'T ATLANTIC	Ed Sheeran 20

RHYTHMIC™			
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	Artist WKS. ON CHART
1	1	#1 2 WKS SOMEBODY I.M.G./REPUBLIC	Natalie La Rose Feat. Jeremih 12
3	2	AYO YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/RCA	Chris Brown & Tyga 12
2	3	TRUFFLE BUTTER YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	Nicki Minaj Feat. Drake & Lil Wayne 12
7	4	GG EARNED IT (FIFTY SHADES OF GREY) UNIVERSAL STUDIOS/REPUBLIC	The Weeknd 9
4	5	TIME OF OUR LIVES MR. 305/POLO GROUNDS/RCA	Pitbull & Ne-Yo 16
5	6	UPTOWN FUNK! RCA	Mark Ronson Feat. Bruno Mars 18
6	7	FOURFIVESECONDS WESTBURY ROAD/ROC NATION	Rihanna & Kanye West & Paul McCartney 9
8	8	G.D.F.R. POE BOY/ATLANTIC	Flo Rida Feat. Sage The Gemini & Lookas 20
10	9	THROW SUM MO EARDRUMA/INTERSCOPE	Rae Sremmurd Feat. Nicki Minaj & Young Thug 6
13	10	ONE LAST TIME REPUBLIC	Ariana Grande 7
14	11	BLESSINGS G.O.O.D./DEF JAM	Big Sean Feat. Drake 7
15	12	HOTEL THA ALUMNI GROUP/88 CLASSIC/RCA	Kid Ink Feat. Chris Brown 9
9	13	I DON'T MIND RCA	Usher Feat. Juicy J 22
11	14	SHE KNOWS COMPOUND ENTERTAINMENT/MOTOWN/CAPITOL	Ne-Yo Feat. Juicy J 24
19	15	TRAP QUEEN RGF/300	Fetty Wap 4
22	16	WANT TO WANT ME BELUGA HEIGHTS/WARNER BROS.	Jason Derulo 3
16	17	ALL DAY G.O.O.D./ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM	Kanye West Feat. Theophilus London, Allan Kingdom & Paul McCartney 4
17	18	TRAMPOLINE REPUBLIC	Kalin And Myles 8
20	19	GOOD LOVIN DTP/DEF JAM	Ludacris Feat. Miguel 9
12	20	APPARENTLY DREAMVILLE/ROC NATION/COLUMBIA	J. Cole 15
18	21	ONLY YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	Nicki Minaj Feat. Drake, Lil Wayne & Chris Brown 20
25	22	ALL HANDS ON DECK (REMIX) RCA	Tinashe Feat. Iggy Azalea 3
24	23	OPEN WIDE FLY EYE/COLUMBIA	Calvin Harris Feat. Big Sean 7
29	24	CHAINS SAFEHOUSE/ISLAND/REPUBLIC	Nick Jonas 5
28	25	SUGAR 222/INTERSCOPE	Maroon 5 8

ADULT TOP 40™			
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	Artist WKS. ON CHART
3	1	#1 1 WK STYLE BIG MACHINE/REPUBLIC	Taylor Swift 11
2	2	UPTOWN FUNK! RCA	Mark Ronson Feat. Bruno Mars 19
1	3	THINKING OUT LOUD ATLANTIC	Ed Sheeran 20
4	4	SUGAR 222/INTERSCOPE	Maroon 5 11
5	5	GG LOVE ME LIKE YOU DO UNIVERSAL STUDIOS/REPUBLIC/INTERSCOPE	Ellie Goulding 11
7	6	HEARTBEAT SONG 19/RCA	Kelly Clarkson 11
9	7	I BET MY LIFE KIDINAKORNER/INTERSCOPE	Imagine Dragons 21
12	8	SHUT UP AND DANCE RCA	WALK THE MOON 12
8	9	BLANK SPACE BIG MACHINE/REPUBLIC	Taylor Swift 22
6	10	GHOST SYCO/COLUMBIA	Ella Henderson 29
14	11	GERONIMO EMPIRE OF SONG/CHUGG/SCHOOLBOY/REPUBLIC	Sheppard 18
11	12	LIPS ARE MOVIN EPIC	Meghan Trainor 20
15	13	FOURFIVESECONDS WESTBURY ROAD/ROC NATION	Rihanna & Kanye West & Paul McCartney 9
16	14	HONEY, I'M GOOD. 5-CURVE/HOLLYWOOD	Andy Grammer 8
17	15	BUDAPEST COLUMBIA	George Ezra 18
19	16	LAY ME DOWN CAPITOL	Sam Smith 7
20	17	NIGHT CHANGES SYCO/COLUMBIA	One Direction 14
18	18	PRAYER IN C CHOKE INDUSTRY/TONSPiEL/CiNO 7/WARGRAM/ATLANTIC/RRP	Lillywood & Robin Schulz 11
22	19	NOTHING WITHOUT LOVE FUELED BY RAMEN/RRP	Nate Ruess 4
21	20	BRIGHT WARNER BROS.	Echosmith 8
23	21	TIME OF OUR LIVES MR. 305/POLO GROUNDS/RCA	Pitbull & Ne-Yo 6
24	22	BULLETPROOF PICASSO COLUMBIA	Train 8
26	23	EARNED IT (FIFTY SHADES OF GREY) UNIVERSAL STUDIOS/REPUBLIC	The Weeknd 4
25	24	NO GOOD IN GOODBYE PHONOGENIC/COLUMBIA	The Script 9
29	25	BELIEVE GENTLEMEN OF THE ROAD/GLASSNOTE	Mumford & Sons 3

SOCIAL 50: The week's most active artists on social networking sites based on weekly additions of fans across Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram; reactions and conversations across Twitter, YouTube and Instagram; and views to an artist's Wikipedia page, as measured by Next Big Sound. **MAINSTREAM TOP 40:** The week's most popular songs across all genres, ranked by the album-oriented *Billboard* 200 chart, sales, and streaming activity on all major on-demand music services. **RHYTHMIC:** Songs that are predominantly pop, hip-hop, or R&B, ranked by album-oriented *Billboard* 200 chart, sales, and streaming activity on all major on-demand music services. **ADULT CONTEMPORARY:** Songs that are predominantly pop, adult contemporary, or soft rock, ranked by album-oriented *Billboard* 200 chart, sales, and streaming activity on all major on-demand music services. **ADULT TOP 40:** Songs that are predominantly pop, adult contemporary, or soft rock, ranked by album-oriented *Billboard* 200 chart, sales, and streaming activity on all major on-demand music services. **CHARTS:** See charts legend on billboard.com/biz for complete rules and explanations. All charts © 2015, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.

SOCIAL DATA COMPILED BY
nielsen
BIG DATA
MUSIC

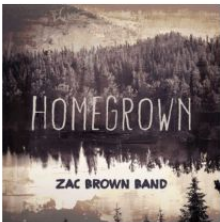
Country

April 11
2015
billboard

HOT COUNTRY SONGS™						
2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE	CERTIFICATION PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	Artist IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	PEAK POS. WKS. ON CHART
1	1	1	#1 8 WKS TAKE YOUR TIME	● Z.CROWELL,S.MCANALLY (S.HUNT,J.OSBORNE,S.MCANALLY)	Sam Hunt MCA NASHVILLE	1 22
2	2	2	HOMEGROWN	J.JOYCE,Z.BROWN,Z.BROWN,W.DURRETTE,N.MOON) VARVATOS/REPUBLIC/BMLG/SOUTHERN GROUND	Zac Brown Band	2 12
18	17	3	DG SG GIRL CRUSH	J.JOYCE (L.ROSE,L.MCKENNA,H.LINDSEY)	Little Big Town CAPITOL NASHVILLE	3 17
3	3	4	AIN'T WORTH THE WHISKEY	M.CARTER (C.SWINDELL,A.SANDERS,J.MARTIN)	Cole Swindell WARNER BROS./WMN	3 26
7	4	5	LONELY EYES	J.STROUD (J.BULFORD,J.MATTHEWS,L.VELTZ)	Chris Young RCA NASHVILLE	4 28
8	5	6	DRINKING CLASS	N.MCCURE,K.JACOBS,L.BRICE (J.KEAR,D.FRASIER,E.M.HILL)	Lee Brice CURB	5 31
9	6	7	HOMEGROWN HONEY	F.ROGERS (D.RUCKER,C.KELLEY,N.CHAPMAN)	Darius Rucker CAPITOL NASHVILLE	6 31
11	7	8	AG SAY YOU DO	R. COPPERMAN (M.RAMSEY,S.MCANALLY,T.ROSEN)	Dierks Bentley CAPITOL NASHVILLE	7 24
12	11	9	A GUY WALKS INTO A BAR	J.CATINO,J.KING (M.PEIRCE,J.SINGLETON,B.TURSI)	Tyler Farr COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	9 27
14	12	10	SMOKE	D.COBB (M.HOBBY,J.M.NITE,R.COPPERMAN)	A Thousand Horses REPUBLIC NASHVILLE	10 12
5	10	11	LITTLE RED WAGON	F.LIDDLELL,C.AINLAV,G.WORF (A.MAE,GINSBERG J.)	Miranda Lambert RCA NASHVILLE	5 12
16	15	12	DON'T IT	D.HUFF (J.JOHNSTON,A.GORLEY,R.COPPERMAN)	Billy Currington MERCURY	12 19
15	13	13	RAISE 'EM UP	N.CHAPMAN,K.URBAN (J.JOHNSTON,JEFFREY STEELE,T.DOUGLAS)	Keith Urban Featuring Eric Church HIT RED/CAPITOL NASHVILLE	13 10
28	18	14	SIPPIN' ON FIRE	J.MOI (R.CLAWSON,M.DRAGSTREM,C.TAYLOR)	Florida Georgia Line REPUBLIC NASHVILLE	10 9
20	19	15	SHE DON'T LOVE YOU	M.ALTMAN (E.PASLAY,J.WAYNE)	Eric Paslay EMI NASHVILLE	15 21
10	14	16	LONELY TONIGHT	S.HENDRICKS (B.ANDERSON,R.HURD)	Blake Shelton Featuring Ashley Monroe WARNER BROS./WMN	2 22
26	22	17	LITTLE TOY GUNS	M.BRIGHT (C.UNDERWOOD,C. DESTEFANO,H.LINDSEY)	Carrie Underwood 19/ARISTA NASHVILLE	17 10
25	21	18	DIAMOND RINGS AND OLD BARSTOOLS	B.GALLIMORE,T.MCGRAW (L.LAIRD,B.DEAN,J.SINGLETON)	Tim McGraw With Catherine Dunn MCGRAW/BIG MACHINE	18 9
6	9	19	JUST GETTIN' STARTED	M.KNOX (C. DESTEFANO,R.AKINS,A.GORLEY)	Jason Aldean BROKEN BOW	5 23
29	26	20	LOVE YOU LIKE THAT	B.BEAVERS,J.ROBBINS (C.SMITH,B.BEAVERS,J.BEAVERS)	Canaan Smith MERCURY	20 26
13	16	21	I SEE YOU	J.STEVENS (L.BRYAN,L.LAIRD,A.GORLEY)	Luke Bryan CAPITOL NASHVILLE	1 22
24	23	22	WILD CHILD	K.CANNON,K.CHESNEY (K.CHESNEY,S.MCANALLY,J.OSBORNE)	Kenny Chesney With Grace Potter BLUE CHAIR/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	22 8
30	25	23	LIKE A WRECKING BALL	J.JOYCE (E.CHURCH,C.BEATHARD)	Eric Church EMI NASHVILLE	23 6
27	24	24	LOVE ME LIKE YOU MEAN IT	F.G.WHITEHEAD (K.BALLERINI,J.KERR,F.G.WHITEHEAD,L.CARPENTER)	Kelsea Ballerini BLACK RIVER	24 18
HOT SHOT DEBUT		25	BACKROAD SONG	F.ROGERS,G.SMITH (G.SMITH,F.ROGERS)	Granger Smith PIONEER	25 1
31	27	26	BABY BE MY LOVE SONG	C.CHAMBERLAIN (J.COLLINS,BRETT JAMES)	Easton Corbin MERCURY	26 21
34	29	27	CRUSHIN' IT	L.WOOTEN,B.PAISLEY (B.PAISLEY,K.LOVEACE,L.T.MILLER)	Brad Paisley ARISTA NASHVILLE	27 8
35	31	28	LAY LOW	F.ROGERS (R.COPPERMAN,T.MARTIN,M.NESLER)	Josh Turner MCA NASHVILLE	28 19
-	28	29	BISCUITS	K.MUSGRAVES,L.LAIRD,S.MCANALLY (K.MUSGRAVES,S.MCANALLY,B.CLARK)	Kacey Musgraves MERCURY	28 2
36	32	30	ONE HELL OF AN AMEN	D.HUFF (B.GILBERT,M.DEKLE,B.DAVIS)	Brantley Gilbert VALORY	30 13
23	30	31	GAMES	J.STEVENS (L.BRYAN,A.GORLEY)	Luke Bryan CAPITOL NASHVILLE	23 5
40	35	32	KISS YOU IN THE MORNING	S.HENDRICKS (J.WILSON,M.WHITE)	Michael Ray WARNER BROS./WEA	32 3
43	36	33	GOING OUT LIKE THAT	T.BROWN (B.HAYSLIP,R.AKINS,J.SELLERS)	Reba NASH ICON/VALORY	28 12
37	34	34	HARD TO BE COOL	M.J.CONES (R.HATCH,J.SELLERS)	Joe Nichols RED BOW	34 16
46	39	35	YOUNG & CRAZY	M.ALTMAN,S.HENDRICKS (A.GORLEY,S.MCANALLY,R.AKINS)	Frankie Ballard WARNER BROS./WAR	35 5
45	37	36	HELL OF A NIGHT	M.J.CONES (Z.CROWELL,A.SANDERS,J.BOYER)	Dustin Lynch BROKEN BOW	36 12
42	41	37	RIOT	J.DEMARCUS,RASCAL FLATTS (J.BOYER,S.HAZE)	Rascal Flatts BIG MACHINE	37 12
41	40	38	I'M TO BLAME	B.JAMES (K.MOORE,L.WEAVER,W.DAVIS)	Kip Moore MCA NASHVILLE	31 8
38	38	39	RIDE	C. DESTEFANO (J.SOMERS-MORALES,D.C.TARPLEY JR.)	Chase Rice DACK JANIELS/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	38 6
-	33	40	BUY ME A BOAT	C.JANSON,C.DUBOIS,B.ANDERSON (C.JANSON,C.DUBOIS)	Chris Janson CHRIS JANSON	33 2
47	42	41	FLY	D.HUFF (M.MARLOW,T.DYE,T.VARTANYAN)	Maddie & Tae DOT	41 6
-	44	42	GONNA WANNA TONIGHT	C. DESTEFANO (S.MCANALLY,J.M.NITE,J.ROBBINS)	Chase Rice DACK JANIELS/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	34 12
48	43	43	TROUBLE	M.SERLETIC (R.REINERT,M.GOSSIN,R.COPPERMAN,J.M.NITE)	Gloriana EMBLEM/WARNER BROS./WAR	42 13
50	46	44	I GOT THE BOY	S.HENDRICKS (T.NICHOLS,C.HARRINGTON,J.L.SPEARS)	Jana Kramer ELEKTRA NASHVILLE/WAR	33 6
RE-ENTRY		45	TONIGHT LOOKS GOOD ON YOU	M.KNOX (D.DAVIDSON,R.AKINS,A.GORLEY)	Jason Aldean BROKEN BOW	8 4
RE-ENTRY		46	SANGRIA	S.HENDRICKS (J.T.HARDING,J.OSBORNE,T.ROSEN)	Blake Shelton WARNER BROS./WMN	35 2
-	48	47	BREAK UP WITH HIM	S.MCANALLY (M.RAMSEY,T.ROSEN,B.TURSI,G.SPRUNG,W.SELLERS)	Old Dominion REESMACK/CRESCENDOMUSIC/PROJECTS	47 3
32	47	48	FOR A BOY	J.MOI (RAELYNN,L.VELTZ)	RaeLynn VALORY	32 3
33	45	49	SPRING BREAKDOWN	J.STEVENS (L.BRYAN,A.GORLEY,Z.CROWELL)	Luke Bryan CAPITOL NASHVILLE	33 5
-	49	50	SPEAKERS	Z.CROWELL,S.MCANALLY (S.HUNT,B.HOOD,K.SACKLEY)	Sam Hunt MCA NASHVILLE	40 10

TOP COUNTRY ALBUMS™					
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST	CERTIFICATION IMPRINT/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	WKS. ON CHART
1	1	#1 3 WKS	LUKE BRYAN CAPITOL NASHVILLE/UMGN	Spring Break... Checkin' Out	3
2	2		SAM HUNT MCA NASHVILLE/UMGN	Montevallo	22
HOT SHOT DEBUT	3		VARIOUS ARTISTS ABC STUDIOS/LIONS GATE/BIG MACHINE/BMLG	Nashville: On The Record, Volume 2	1
NEW	4		VARIOUS ARTISTS ZINEPAK	2015 Academy Of Country Music Awards ZinePak	1
3	5		JASON ALDEAN ▲ BROKEN BOW/BBMG	Old Boots, New Dirt	25
4	6		FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE ● REPUBLIC NASHVILLE/BMLG	Anything Goes	24
15	7	GG	LITTLE BIG TOWN CAPITOL NASHVILLE/UMGN	Pain Killer	23
6	8		ERIC CHURCH ▲ EMI NASHVILLE/UMGN	The Outsiders	59
5	9		CHASE RICE COLUMBIA NASHVILLE/DACK JANIELS	Ignite The Night	32
7	10		CARRIE UNDERWOOD ● 19/ARISTA NASHVILLE/SMN	Greatest Hits: Decade #1	16
9	11		LUKE BRYAN ▲ CAPITOL NASHVILLE/UMGN	Crash My Party	86
8	12		MIRANDA LAMBERT ● RCA NASHVILLE/SMN	Platinum	43
14	13		COLE SWINDELL WARNER BROS./WMN	Cole Swindell	58
16	14		GARTH BROOKS ▲ PEARL/RCA NASHVILLE/SMN	Man Against Machine	20
13	15		ZAC BROWN BAND ROAR/SOUTHERN GROUND/ATLANTIC/AG	Greatest Hits So Far...	20
NEW	16		CANAAN SMITH MERCURY/UMGN	Canaan Smith (EP)	1
19	17		KENNY CHESNEY BLUE CHAIR/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE/SMN	The Big Revival	27
17	18		BRANTLEY GILBERT ● VALORY/BMLG	Just As I Am	45
18	19		BLAKE SHELTON ● WARNER BROS./WMN	BRINGING BACK THE SUNSHINE	26
10	20		SHANIA TWAIN MERCURY/UMGN	Still The One: Live From Las Vegas	5
20	21		LEE BRICE CURB	I Dont Dance	29
11	22		ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL BISEMAUX/MAIL BOAT	Still The King: Celebrating The Music Of Bob Wills	4
12	23		LUKE BRYAN CAPITOL NASHVILLE/UMGN	Spring Break, The Set List: The Complete Spring Break Collection ZinePak	3
24	24		DIERKS BENTLEY CAPITOL NASHVILLE/UMGN	Riser	57
NEW	25		STRIKING MATCHES I.R.S. NASHVILLE/CAPITOL	Nothing But The Silence	1

COUNTRY AIRPLAY™				
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	Artist	WKS. ON CHART
3	1	#1 1 WK HOMEGROWN VARVATOS/REPUBLIC/BMLG/SOUTHERN GROUND	Zac Brown Band	11
4	2	HOMEGROWN HONEY CAPITOL NASHVILLE	Darius Rucker	33
2	3	LONELY EYES RCA NASHVILLE	Chris Young	33
5	4	TAKE YOUR TIME MCA NASHVILLE	Sam Hunt	20
1	5	AIN'T WORTH THE WHISKEY WARNER BROS./WMN	Cole Swindell	25
6	6	DRINKING CLASS CURB	Lee Brice	31
9	7	SAY YOU DO CAPITOL NASHVILLE	Dierks Bentley	26
10	8	RAISE 'EM UP HIT RED/CAPITOL NASHVILLE	Keith Urban Feat. Eric Church	11
11	9	A GUY WALKS INTO A BAR COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	Tyler Farr	35
13	10	DON'T IT MERCURY	Billy Currington	23
12	11	SMOKE REPUBLIC NASHVILLE	A Thousand Horses	12
15	12	WILD CHILD BLUE CHAIR/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	Kenny Chesney With Grace Potter	10
16	13	DIAMOND RINGS AND OLD BARSTOOLS MCGRAW/BIG MACHINE	Tim McGraw With Catherine Dunn	10
17	14	BABY BE MY LOVE SONG MERCURY	Easton Corbin	29
19	15	SIPPIN' ON FIRE REPUBLIC NASHVILLE	Florida Georgia Line	9
18	16	LITTLE RED WAGON RCA NASHVILLE	Miranda Lambert	14
20	17	SHE DON'T LOVE YOU EMI NASHVILLE	Eric Paslay	24
21	18	LITTLE TOY GUNS 19/ARISTA NASHVILLE	Carrie Underwood	8
22	19	CRUSHIN' IT ARISTA NASHVILLE	Brad Paisley	10
24	20	LOVE YOU LIKE THAT MERCURY	Canaan Smith	34
23	21	LOVE ME LIKE YOU MEAN IT BLACK RIVER	Kelsea Ballerini	26
25	22	HARD TO BE COOL RED BOW	Joe Nichols	31
26	23	KISS YOU IN THE MORNING WARNER BROS./WEA	Michael Ray	7
28	24	YOUNG & CRAZY WARNER BROS./WAR	Frankie Ballard	12
27	25	LAY LOW MCA NASHVILLE	Josh Turner	29



Brown Back 'Home' At No. 1

Zac Brown Band completes its fastest flight to No. 1 on Country Airplay as “Homegrown,” the group’s 11th leader, rises 3-1 in its 11th chart week. The band previously reigned in as few as 13 weeks with 2010’s “As She’s Walking Away” (featuring **Alan Jackson**). “Homegrown” logs the speediest trip to the apex in more than two years; **Blake Shelton** also hit No. 1 in just 11 weeks with “Sure Be Cool If You Did” (March 30, 2013). No song has climbed to the top more quickly since **Jason Aldean**’s “Take a Little Ride” zoomed to the summit in only 10 weeks (Oct. 6, 2012). On Hot Country Songs, “Homegrown” holds at its No. 2 peak for a fourth week.

On Top Country Albums, ABC’s *Nashville* franchise yields its seventh top 10 companion album as *Nashville: On the Record, Volume 2* debuts at No. 3. Of the TV show’s releases, only *Nashville: On the Record* has charted higher, reaching No. 2 in May 2014; the series’ first album, 2012’s *Nashville: Season 1: Volume 1*, also peaked at No. 3. The new album starts with 13,000 sold, according to Nielsen Music.

Also on Top Country Albums, **Canaan Smith** enters at No. 16 with his debut self-titled EP (3,000 sold). Helping to drive the set’s sales, lead single “Love You Like That” reaches the Hot Country Songs top 20, rising 26-20 in its 26th week. (The Nashville native first stepped into the entertainment spotlight as a contestant on CBS’ *The Amazing Race* in 2009.)

—Gary Trust

HOT COUNTRY SONGS: The week's most popular current country songs, ranked by radio airplay audience impressions as measured by Nielsen Music, sales data as compiled by Nielsen Music, and streaming activity data by online music sources tracked by Nielsen Music. Songs are defined as current if they are newly-released titles, or songs receiving widespread airplay and/or sales activity for the first time. TOP COUNTRY ALBUMS: The week's most popular country albums, ranked by sales data as compiled by Nielsen Music. Albums are defined as current if they are less than 18 months old or older than 18 months but still residing in the Billboard 200's top 100. COUNTRY AIRPLAY: The week's most popular country songs, ranked by radio airplay audience impressions as measured by Nielsen Music. Stations are electronically monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. See Chart.Legend.onbillboard.com/biz/ for complete rules and explanations. © 2015, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.

HOT ROCK SONGS™						
2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE CERIFICATION PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	Artist IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	PEAK POS.	WKS. ON CHART
2	2	1	#1 AG SG SHUT UP AND DANCE WALK THE MOON TPAGNOTTA (N.PETRICCA,E.MAIMAN,K.RAY,S.WAUGAMAN,B.BERGER,R.MCMAHON) RCA		1	29
1	1	2	TAKE ME TO CHURCH ▲ A.HOZIER-BYRNE (A.HOZIER-BYRNE)	Hozier RUBYWORKS/COLUMBIA	1	48
3	3	3	CENTURIES ▲ J.R.ROTE/COMEGA (J.R.ROTE/M.P.STUMP/P.WENTZ),J.TROHMAN,J.HURLEY/M.J.FONSECA,R.KIMARI,J.TRANTNER/S.VEGA) DCD2/ISLAND/REPUBLIC	Fall Out Boy	2	29
5	4	4	RIPTIDE ▲ J.CASTLE,J.KEOGH,E.WHITE (VANCE JOY)	Vance Joy F-STOP/ATLANTIC	2	58
7	6	5	DG BUDAPEST ● BLACKWOOD C. (G. EZRA,J.POTT)	George Ezra COLUMBIA	5	34
6	5	6	I BET MY LIFE IMAGINE DRAGONS (IMAGINE DRAGONS)	Imagine Dragons KIDINAKORNER/INTERSCOPE	3	22
4	7	7	BELIEVE I.FORD (MUMFORD & SONS)	Mumford & Sons GENTLEMEN OF THE ROAD/GLASSNOTE	4	3
HOT SHOT DEBUT		8	FAILURE B.BURNLEY (B.BURNLEY)	Breaking Benjamin HOLLYWOOD	8	1
8	9	9	IMMORTALS B.WALKER (A.HURLEY,J.TROHMAN,P.V.STUMP,P.WENTZ)	Fall Out Boy WALT DISNEY/DCD2/ISLAND	6	24
9	10	10	STOLEN DANCE ▲ P.DAUSCH (C.REHBEIN)	Milky Chance LICHTDICHT/NEON/REPUBLIC	4	43
16	17	11	NOTHING WITHOUT LOVE J.BHASKER,E.HAYNIE (N.RUESS,J.BHASKER,E.HAYNIE,J.KLINGHOFFER)	Nate Ruess FUELED BY RAMEN/RRP	11	5
10	13	12	UMA THURMAN J.SINCLAIR,YOUNG WOLF HATCHINGS (FALL OUT BOY/D.HASHIM/J.YOUNG/L.F.DONNELL,J.SINCLAIR,L.MARSHALL,R.MOSHER) DCD2/ISLAND/REPUBLIC	Fall Out Boy	6	11
NEW		13	DEAD INSIDE MUSE,R.J.LANGE (M.BELLAMY)	Muse HELIUM-3/WARNER BROS.	13	1
26	20	14	HOLD BACK THE RIVER L.ARCHER (J.BAY,L.ARCHER)	James Bay REPUBLIC	14	6
12	12	15	LAMPSHADES ON FIRE I.BROCK,C.JONES,T.MARTINE (I.BROCK)	Modest Mouse EPIC	12	15
11	14	16	HOLLOW MOON (BAD WOLF) A.BRUNO (A.BRUNO)	AWOLNATION RED BULL	11	9
13	16	17	WHAT KIND OF MAN M.DRAVS,J.HILL (F.WELCH,T.HULL,J.HILL)	Florence + The Machine REPUBLIC	7	7
-	11	18	LET IT GO J.KING (J.BAY,P.BARRY)	James Bay REPUBLIC	11	3
18	21	19	BLACK SUN R.COSTEY (R.BIGBARD)	Death Cab For Cutie BARSUK/ATLANTIC	16	9
-	15	20	CRYSTALS R.COSTEY/OF MONSTERS AND MEN (N.B.HILMARSDOTTIR,A.R.HILMARSSON,R.THORHALSSON) REPUBLIC	Of Monsters And Men	15	2
21	27	21	SHOTS IMAGINE DRAGONS (IMAGINE DRAGONS)	Imagine Dragons KIDINAKORNER/INTERSCOPE	7	9
-	8	22	FAIRLY LOCAL R.REED,T.JOSEPH (T.JOSEPH)	twenty one pilots FUELED BY RAMEN/RRP	8	2
22	23	23	CONGREGATION B.VIG,FOO FIGHTERS (FOO FIGHTERS)	Foo Fighters ROSWELL/RCA	22	8
31	32	24	BROTHER E.CASH,D.TOZER,NEEDTOBREATHE (N.RINEHART,W.RINEHART,G.DEGRAW) ATLANTIC	NEEDTOBREATHE Featuring Gavin DeGraw	12	6
14	29	25	HEAVY IS THE HEAD Z.BROWN (Z.BROWN,N.MOON,J.DE MARTINI,J.D.HOPKINS,D.SCOTT) VARVATOS/SOUTHERN GROUND/BMLG/REPUBLIC	Zac Brown Band Feat. Chris Cornell	14	4
20	25	26	IRRESISTIBLE B.WALKER,J.SINCLAIR (FALL OUT BOY)	Fall Out Boy DCD2/ISLAND/REPUBLIC	7	12
25	28	27	BLANK SPACE B.J.PERRY (T.SWIFT/MAX.MARTIN,SHELLBACK,S.D.MENOWAN,B.A.BURKHESER,J.J.RUNESTAD,B.J.PERRY/R.JVANLEBERGHE) FEARLESS	I Prevail	9	12
29	31	28	DON'T WANNA FIGHT B.MILLS,ALABAMA SHAKES (ALABAMA SHAKES)	Alabama Shakes ATO	21	6
15	24	29	FIRST KISS KID ROCK,D.HUFF (R.J.RITCHIE,M.YOUNG)	Kid Rock TOP DOG/WARNER BROS.	6	12
NEW		30	CAN'T DENY MY LOVE A.RECHTSCHAID (B.FLOWERS,D.BECKETT)	Brandon Flowers ISLAND/REPUBLIC	30	1
33	22	31	COMING FOR YOU B.ROCK (B.K.HOLLAND)	The Offspring TIME BOMB	22	6
32	30	32	ELECTRIC LOVE T.ENGLISH (G.BORNS,T.SCHLEITER,N.LONG,J.MORAN)	BORNS INTERSCOPE	13	11
27	18	33	PSYCHO MUSE,R.J.LANGE (M.BELLAMY)	Muse HELIUM-3/WARNER BROS.	18	3
NEW		34	COLLIDE B.APPELBERRY (K.GRIFFIN,H.DAVY)	Sawyer Fredericks REPUBLIC	34	1
36	35	35	MY TYPE J.NAPOLITANO,S.MOTEL (A.L.JACKSON,A.D.MOORE SHARP,G.S.ERWIN,C.LERDAMORPONG) PARLOPHONE/ELEKTRA/RRP	Saint Motel	35	5
NEW		36	ST. JUDE M.DRAVS (F.WELCH,J.FORD)	Florence + The Machine REPUBLIC	36	1
41	40	37	I'M SO SORRY IMAGINE DRAGONS (NOT LISTED)	Imagine Dragons KIDINAKORNER/INTERSCOPE	14	6
28	33	38	SOMEONE NEW A.HOZIER-BYRNE,R.KIRWAN (A.HOZIER-BYRNE,S.M.GARNETT)	Hozier RUBYWORKS/COLUMBIA	14	6
-	34	39	EX'S & OH'S D.BASSETT (E.KING,D.BASSETT)	Elle King RCA	34	3
35	36	40	CHERRY WINE A.HOZIER-BYRNE (A.HOZIER-BYRNE)	Hozier RUBYWORKS/COLUMBIA	32	17
37	39	41	APOCALYPTIC J.JOYCE (L.HALE,S.C.S.STEVENS,N.CAMPANY)	Halestorm ATLANTIC	34	6
39	41	42	WEIGHT OF LOVE DANGER MOUSE,THE BLACK KEYS (B.BURTON,P.CARNEY,B.BURTON)	The Black Keys NONESUCH/WARNER BROS.	24	7
NEW		43	RENEGADES ALEX DA KID (A.GRANTS,HARRIS,N.FELDSHUH,C.HARRIS,A.N.LEVINE)	X Ambassadors KIDINAKORNER/INTERSCOPE	43	1
30	37	44	CECILIA AND THE SATELLITE M.VIOLA,J.FLANNIGAN,A.GRAHN (A.MCMAHON,J.FLANNIGAN,A.GRAHN) VANGUARD	Andrew McMahon In The Wilderness	28	11
38	42	45	FLASHED JUNK MIND C.REHBEIN,P.DAUSCH (C.REHBEIN)	Milky Chance LICHTDICHT/NEON/REPUBLIC	38	18
47	46	46	FOLLOW ME DOWN K.KHANDWALA (T.MOMSEN,B.PHILLIPS)	The Pretty Reckless GOIN' DOWN/RAZOR & TIE	46	3
43	49	47	JACKIE AND WILSON A.HOZIER-BYRNE,R.KIRWAN (A.HOZIER-BYRNE)	Hozier RUBYWORKS/COLUMBIA	18	11
44	48	48	LIFTED UP (1985) M.ANGELAKOS (M.ANGELAKOS,B.LEVIN)	Passion Pit COLUMBIA	31	6
NEW		49	BLAME IT ON ME BLACKWOOD C. (G. EZRA,J.POTT)	George Ezra COLUMBIA	49	1
46	47	50	ABSOLUTION CALLING M.EINZIGER,B.BOYD (B.BOYD,M.EINZIGER,J.PASILLAS I.L.C.KILMORE,B.KENNEDY) ISLAND/REPUBLIC	Incubus ISLAND/REPUBLIC	41	7

TOP ROCK ALBUMS™				
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST IMPRINT/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	WKS. ON CHART
HOT SHOT DEBUT	1	#1 1 WK COURTNEY BARNETT Sometimes I Sit And Think, And Sometimes I Just Sit. MILKI/HOUSE ANXIETY/MARATHON ARTISTS/MOM + POP		1
NEW	2	VAN MORRISON Duets: Re-Working The Catalogue RCA		1
NEW	3	JAMES BAY Chaos And The Calm REPUBLIC		1
	4	IMAGINE DRAGONS Smoke + Mirrors KIDINAKORNER/INTERSCOPE/IGA		6
1	5	MODEST MOUSE Strangers To Ourselves EPIC		2
NEW	6	JOE BONAMASSA Muddy Wolf At Red Rocks J & R ADVENTURES		1
7	7	HOZIER RUBYWORKS/COLUMBIA	Hozier	25
8	8	FALL OUT BOY American Beauty / American Psycho DCD2/ISLAND		10
9	9	SOUNDTRACK Guardians Of The Galaxy: Awesome Mix Vol. 1 MARVEL/HOLLYWOOD		35
6	10	KID ROCK First Kiss TOP DOG/WARNER BROS.		5
31	11	GG BJORK ONE LITTLE INDIAN Vulnicura		6
NEW	12	KANSAS Miracles Out Of Nowhere (Soundtrack) EPIC/LEGACY		1
2	13	MARK KNOPFLER Tracker WILL D. SIDE/BRITISH GROVE/MERCURY/VERVE/VG		2
3	14	SLEEPING WITH SIRENS Madness EPITAPH		2
4	15	AWOLNATION Run RED BULL		2
11	16	THIRD DAY Lead Us Back: Songs Of Worship ESSENTIAL/PLG		4
21	17	PS GEORGE EZRA Wanted On Voyage COLUMBIA		9
NEW	18	TOTO Toto XIV FRONTIERS		1
NEW	19	SMALLPOOLS Lovetap! RCA		1
NEW	20	BIG DATA 2.0 CRUSH MUSIC/WILCASSETTES/WARNER BROS.		1
12	21	BOB DYLAN Shadows In The Night COLUMBIA		8
10	22	BRANDI CARLILE The Firewatcher's Daughter ATO		4
NEW	23	CHON Grow SUMERIAN		1
16	24	WALK THE MOON TALKING IS HARD RCA		17
NEW	25	STRUNG OUT Transmission.Alpha.Delta FAT WRECK CHORDS		1

TRIPLE A™				
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	Artist	WKS. ON CHART
3	1	#1 1WK BELIEVE GENTLEMEN OF THE ROAD/GLASSNOTE	Mumford & Sons	3
2	2	DON'T WANNA FIGHT ATO	Alabama Shakes	7
1	3	BLACK SUN BARSUK/ATLANTIC	Death Cab For Cutie	9
5	4	WHAT KIND OF MAN REPUBLIC	Florence + The Machine	6
4	5	LAMPSHADES ON FIRE EPIC	Modest Mouse	15
6	6	MESS IS MINE F-STOP/ATLANTIC	Vance Joy	11
7	7	BIG DECISIONS ATO/CAPITOL	My Morning Jacket	4
8	8	WHEREVER IS YOUR HEART ATO	Brandi Carlile	12
9	9	SEDONA ROUGH TRADE/BEGGARS GROUP	Houndmouth	7
10	10	DEARLY DEPARTED DUALTONE	Shakey Graves	21
15	11	CRYSTALS REPUBLIC	Of Monsters And Men	2
12	12	WEIGHT OF LOVE NONESUCH/WARNER BROS.	The Black Keys	10
11	13	BUDAPEST COLUMBIA	George Ezra	29
13	14	SHUT UP AND DANCE RCA	WALK THE MOON	24
16	15	FOOL FOR LOVE IAMSOUND	Lord Huron	5
17	16	INSIDE OUT HEADZ UNDER/SEVEN FOUR/LOMA VISTA/CMG	Spoon	12
19	17	HOLD BACK THE RIVER REPUBLIC	James Bay	5
23	18	SHOTS KIDINAKORNER/INTERSCOPE	Imagine Dragons	3
21	19	BLAME IT ON ME COLUMBIA	George Ezra	5
20	20	LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL ROUNDER/CMG	JD McPherson	10
25	21	UNDER THE PRESSURE SECRETLY CANADIAN	The War On Drugs	4
29	22	WORK SONG RUBYWORKS/COLUMBIA	Hozier	2
28	23	COMING HOME COLUMBIA	Leon Bridges	4
27	24	MIDNIGHT GLASSNOTE	Tor Miller	6
NEW	25	GG HYPNOTIC PINETOP/HOLLYWOOD	Zella Day	1



Walk The Moon Shines

The party anthem “Shut Up and Dance” from **Walk the Moon** (above) surges to No. 1 on Hot Rock Songs. The track, which previously topped both Alternative and Rock Airplay, dethrones **Hozier**’s “Take Me to Church,” which remains tied for the longest run at No. 1 on Hot Rock Songs: 23 weeks. **Imagine Dragons**’ “Radioactive” first established the mark in 2013. With sales accounting for roughly half the chart points for Walk the Moon’s first Hot Rock Songs No. 1, “Dance” rules Rock Digital Songs for a second week with 93,000 sold (its best week), up 12 percent, according to Nielsen Music.

On Top Rock Albums, Australian singer-songwriter **Courtney Barnett**’s first full-length, *Sometimes I Sit and Think, and Sometimes I Just Sit*, debuts at No. 1 with 22,000 sold. The set also starts at No. 20 on the Billboard 200 and opens atop Folk Albums, Independent Albums and Vinyl Albums (with 4,000 vinyl copies sold).

Mumford & Sons’ “Believe” rises to No. 1 on Triple A in its third week. It’s the second time the band has taken the top spot so swiftly, also ruling with “I Will Wait” in just three frames in 2012. The group logs its third leader; “Lover of the Light” reigned in 2013.

The Rock Airplay chart also boasts a new leader as **Foo Fighters** notch their fifth No. 1 on the ranking with “Congregation” (10.1 million rock radio impressions, up 1 percent).

—Emily White

HOT ROCK SONGS: The week’s most popular current rock songs, ranked by radio airplay audience impressions as measured by Nielsen Music. Songs are defined as current if they are newly-released titles, or songs receiving widespread airplay and/or sales activity for the first time. TOP ROCK ALBUMS: The week’s most popular rock albums, ranked by sales data as compiled by Nielsen Music. Albums are defined as current if they are less than 18 months old or older than 18 months but still residing in the Billboard 200’s top 100. TRIPLE A: The week’s most popular triple A songs, ranked by radio airplay detections as measured by Nielsen Music. Stations are electronically monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. See Charts Legend on Billboard.com for complete rules and explanations. © 2015, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.

HOT R&B/HIP-HOP SONGS: The week's most popular current R&B/hip-hop songs, ranked by radio airplay audience impressions as measured by Nielsen Music and streaming activity data by online music sources tracked by Nielsen Music. Songs are defined as current if they are newly-released titles, or songs receiving widespread airplay and/or sales activity for the first time. **TOP R&B/HIP-HOP ALBUMS:** The week's most popular current R&B/hip-hop albums, ranked by sales data as compiled by Nielsen Music. Albums are defined as current if they are less than 18 months old or older than 18 months but still residing in the Billboard 200's top 100. **R&B/HIP-HOP** charts are compiled by Nielsen Music and are based on data from Nielsen Music, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved. See Charts Legend on billboard.com for complete rules and explanations. © 2015, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.

HIGHLY ALLENE

R&B/Hip-Hop

April 11
2015
billboard

HOT R&B/HIP-HOP SONGS™						
2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	Artist IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	PEAK POS.	WKS. ON CHART
2	2	1	#1 1 WK AG EARNED IT (FIFTY SHADES OF GREY) SMOCCO, J.QUEENNEVILLE (ATESAYE,KES,MCCOOL,QUEENNEVILLE,A.BALSHE)	The Weeknd UNIVERSAL STUDIOS/REPUBLIC	1	14
3	3	2	DG TRAP QUEEN T.FADD (W.J.MAXWELL,T.FADD)	Fetty Wap RGF/300	2	11
1	1	3	FOURFIVESECONDS KNESTEDD,FRANK DUKES (CLEAN,K.OWENSTON,CARTNEY,K.OWENSTON,DEAN,JOHN LEE LONGSTREET,LU AUSTRIN,ANTHONY,GOLDSTEIN)	Rihanna & Kanye West & Paul McCartney WESTBURY ROAD/ROC NATION	1	10
4	4	4	G.D.F.R. DJ FRANK (A.CEDAR,M.BEARD (DILLARD,J.FRANKS,A.CEDAR,K.OWENSTON,PRODRIDGE,M.CARNE,IN.WALLER,GOLDSTEIN,BROWN...))	Flo Rida Featuring Sage The Gemini & Lookas PDR BOY/ATLANTIC	4	23
6	5	5	SOMEBODY COOK CLASSICS,THE FUTURISTICS (W.LOBBA,BEAN,A.SCHWARTZ,J.KHAJAOURIAN,G.MERRILL,S.RUBICAM)	Natalie La Rose Featuring Jeremih I.M.G./REPUBLIC	5	12
5	6	6	TRUFFLE BUTTER NINETEEN85,M.J.COLES (O.T.MARAJ,A.GRAHAM,D.CARTER,P.JEFFERIES,M.J.COLES)	Nicki Minaj Feat. Drake & Lil Wayne YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	4	12
8	8	7	AYO NIC.NAC,M.L.KRAGEN (C.M.BROWN,M.R.NGUYEN-STEVENSON,N.BALDING,M.L.KRAGEN,L.JACKSON)	Chris Brown & Tyga YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/RCA	7	12
14	10	8	POST TO BE DJ MUSTARD,JOANNO (GANDERBERY,MCFARLANE,M.AJANI,M.POWELL,S.EJANCE,BROWN,M.A.E.CHILMONDLE,BONNELL,DUNBAR,DJVIDEL,MILLIS)	Omarion Feat. Chris Brown & Jhene Aiko MAYBACH/ATLANTIC	8	17
HOT SHOT DEBUT		9	B**** BETTER HAVE MY MONEY DEPUTY,K.WEST (L.PIERRE,B.BOURELLY,R.FENTY,L.WEBSTER,K.Q.WEST)	Rihanna WESTBURY ROAD/ROC NATION	9	1
7	7	10	I DON'T MIND DR. LUKE,CIRKUT (J.HOUSTON,L.GOTTWALD,J.K.HINDLIN,T.THOMAS,T.THOMAS,H.R.WALTER)	Usher Featuring Juicy J RCA	1	21
12	11	11	BLESSINGS VINYL,Z.A.RITTER (S.M.ANDERSON,A.HERNANDEZ,A.RITTER,A.GRAHAM)	Big Sean Featuring Drake G.O.O.D./DEF JAM	11	9
20	16	12	SG THROW SUM MO S.O.U.N.D Z (A.BROWN,M.L.BROWN,K.L.WILLIAMS,J.PFELTON,O.T.MARAJ,L.WILLIAMS)	Rae Sremmurd Feat. Nicki Minaj & Young Thug EARDRUM/INTERSCOPE/IGA	12	16
10	9	13	ONLY DR. LUKE,CIRKUT (O.T.MARAJ,A.GRAHAM,D.CARTER,J.MCDELMAN,L.GOTTWALD,THOMAS,H.R.WALTER)	Nicki Minaj Feat. Drake, Lil Wayne & Chris Brown YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	1	22
13	14	14	7/11 B.KNOWLES (B.JOHNSON,DETAIL,S.SWIFT (B.JOHNSON,N.C.FISHER,B.KNOWLES)	Beyonce PARKWOOD/COLUMBIA	1	18
9	13	15	SHE KNOWS DR. LUKE,CIRKUT (S.C.SMITH,J.HOUSTON,L.GOTTWALD,H.R.WALTER)	Ne-Yo Featuring Juicy J COMPOUND ENTERTAINMENT/MOTOWN/CAPITOL	6	25
22	20	16	SLOW MOTION C.PUTH,G.EOFFRO CAUSE (T.NEVERSON,C.PUTH,G.EARLEY,J.K.HINDLIN)	Trey Songz SONGBOOK/ATLANTIC	16	10
23	19	17	KNOW YOURSELF BOI-1DA,VINYL,Z.SKY SENSE (A.GRAHAM,Q.MILLER,M.SAMUELS,A.HERNANDEZ,I.SCRUGGS)	Drake YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	17	6
18	17	18	ENERGY BOI-1DA (A.GRAHAM,M.SAMUELS)	Drake YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	9	7
17	18	19	ALL DAY KNESTEDD,FRANK DUKES (CLEAN,K.OWENSTON,CARTNEY,K.OWENSTON,DEAN,JOHN LEE LONGSTREET,LU AUSTRIN,ANTHONY,GOLDSTEIN...)	Kanye West Feat. Theophilus London, Allan Kingdom & Paul McCartney G.O.O.D./ROCK-A-FELLA/DEF JAM	6	4
27	26	20	WATCH ME BOLO DA PRODUCER (T.B.MINGO,R.L.HAWK)	Silento BOLO	20	5
21	23	21	LEGEND PARTYNEXTDOOR (A.GRAHAM,J.A.BRATHWAITE,Q.MILLER,B.BUSH,TV.MOSLEY)	Drake YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	17	7
RE-ENTRY		22	TROUBLE THE INVISIBLE MENS,SALT WIVES (A.J.KELLY,L.HILL,J.A.PEWORTH,ASTASIO,SHAVE,SALT WIVES,TURNER)	Iggy Azalea Featuring Jennifer Hudson TURN FIRST/HUSTLE GANG/DEF JAM	22	2
15	21	23	I BET H-MONEY (H.D.SAMUELS,T.THOMAS,T.THOMAS,C.P.HARRIS)	Ciara EPIC	15	9
19	24	24	COCO O.FLORES (O.FLORES,S.THOMAS)	O.T. Genasis CONGLOMERATE/ATLANTIC	5	19
28	29	25	10 BANDS BOI-1DA,FRANK DUKES (A.GRAHAM,Q.MILLER,M.SAMUELS,A.FEENY,R.THOMAS III)	Drake YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	19	7
25	27	26	FEELING MYSELF HIT-BOY,B.KNOWLES (O.T.MARAJ,B.KNOWLES,S.ROWE,C.HOLLIS)	Nicki Minaj Featuring Beyonce YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	12	15
-	22	27	KING KUNTA SOUNDWAVE (K.DUCKWORTH,M.SPEARS,J.M.BURNS,M.JACKSON,A.ALEWIS,S.GORDY,L.BROWN,K.WESLEY,I.STARR)	Kendrick Lamar TOP DAWG/AFTERMATH/INTERSCOPE	22	2
24	28	28	APPARENTLY J.L.COLE (J.COLE,F.TRECCA)	J. Cole DREAMVILLE/ROC NATION/COLUMBIA	17	16
30	30	29	SEE YOU AGAIN DJ FRANK (C.PUTH,A.CEDAR (J.FRANKS,A.CEDAR,C.J.THOMAS,Z.C.PUTH)	Wiz Khalifa Featuring Charlie Puth UNIVERSAL STUDIOS/ATLANTIC	29	3
NEW		30	BABY BLUE M.RONSON (A.ARSLANI,M.RONSON,C.J.BENNETT,Z.LOWE)	Action Bronson Feat. Chance The Rapper VICE/ATLANTIC	30	1
38	47	31	COMMAS J.LUELLEN,DJ SPINZ (N.WILBURN CASH,J.H.LUELLEN,G.HILLS)	Future A-1/FREEBANDZ/EPIC	31	3
31	39	32	I DON'T GET TIRED (#1DGT) NIC.NAC,M.L.KRAGEN (G.GAYARD,E.HAMILTON,N.BALDING,M.L.KRAGEN,A.J.ALSINA,J.R.)	Kevin Gates Feat. August Alsina BREAD WINNERS ASSOCIATION/GANGSTA GRILLZ/ATLANTIC	31	14
35	42	33	GOOD LOVIN DA INTERNZ,A.M.COX (C.B.BRIDGES,M.J.PIMENTEL,M.PALACIOS,E.CLARK,A.M.COX)	Ludacris Featuring Miguel DTP/DEF JAM	33	10
NEW		34	ONE TIME DE-KO (Q.MARSHALL,K.BALL,K.CEPHUS)	Migos QUALITY CONTROL/300	34	1
26	32	35	YOU'RE SO BEAUTIFUL J.BEANZ (J.D.WASHINGTON,J.S.MOLLETT,J.BOSTWICK)	Empire Cast Feat. Jussie Smollett & Yazz 20TH CENTURY FOX TV/COLUMBIA	18	5
RE-ENTRY		36	THE MATRIMONY JAKE ONE,DJ KHALIL (Q.AKINTIMEHIN,J.DUTTON,S.DEW)	Wale Featuring Usher MAYBACH/ATLANTIC	36	2
36	25	37	THE BLACKER THE BERRY BOI-1DA,SOUNDWAVE (K.DUCKWORTH,M.SPEARS,S.KOZEMENUK,K.LEWIS,B.HOLADU,L.CAMPBELL,A.QZQUIERO,Z.EPSTEIN)	Kendrick Lamar TOP DAWG/AFTERMATH/INTERSCOPE	25	5
-	31	38	ALRIGHT P.L.WILLIAMS,SOUNDWAVE (K.DUCKWORTH,P.L.WILLIAMS,M.SPEARS)	Kendrick Lamar TOP DAWG/AFTERMATH/INTERSCOPE	31	2
RE-ENTRY		39	G.O.M.D. J.L.COLE (J.COLE,D.ANDREWS,D. HOLMES,E. R.JACKSON,J.H.SMITH)	J. Cole DREAMVILLE/ROC NATION/COLUMBIA	34	10
32	49	40	NO TELLIN' BOI-1DA,FRANK DUKES (A.GRAHAM,Q.MILLER,K.SAMIR,M.SAMUELS,A.FEENY)	Drake YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	26	7
29	36	41	CONQUEROR J.LARDER,REEFA (J.C.KING,O.K.H.BAILEY,A.HIGGS,J.DANIELS,K.ELLYE,SHABAZ)	Empire Cast Feat. Estelle & Jussie Smollett ESTABLISHED 1900/20TH CENTURY FOX TV/IMG/COLUMBIA	15	4
NEW		42	FLICKA DA WRIST FRED ON EM (F.J.FISHER JR.,C.MILBURN)	Chedda Da Connect LMG/EONE	42	1
RE-ENTRY		43	NO ROLE MODELZ D.BARNES (J.COLE,D.BARNES,M.WHITEMAN,P.BEAREGARD,J.HOUSTON,I.STEVENS,E.T.STEVENS,B.JONES)	J. Cole DREAMVILLE/ROC NATION/COLUMBIA	27	15
RE-ENTRY		44	HOTEL THE FEATHERSTONES (J.T.COLLINS,M.FEATHERSTONE,C.FEATHERSTONE,C.FEATHERSTONE,B.BROWN,B.SIMMONS, JR...)	Kid Ink Featuring Chris Brown THA ALBUM GROUP/BB CLASSIC/RCA	30	9
39	41	45	WHAT IS LOVE J.BEANZ,TIMBALAND (TV.MOSLEY,J.D.WASHINGTON,D.JONES)	Empire Cast Featuring V. Bozeman 20TH CENTURY FOX TV/COLUMBIA	39	3
33	43	46	GOOD ENOUGH J.BEANZ,TIMBALAND (TV.MOSLEY,J.D.WASHINGTON,D.JONES)	Empire Cast Featuring Jussie Smollett 20TH CENTURY FOX TV/COLUMBIA	33	5
RE-ENTRY		47	WET DREAMZ J.L.COLE (J.COLE,C.SIMMONS,R.HAMMOND)	J. Cole DREAMVILLE/ROC NATION/COLUMBIA	20	11
NEW		48	PEACHES N CREAM P.L.WILLIAMS (P.L.WILLIAMS,K.HAYNES, JR.,C.C.BROADBENT, JR.,J.C.ELLINTON, JR.,M.MORRISON,S.G.SHEDD)	Snoop Dogg Featuring Charlie Wilson DOGGYSTYLE/ATLANTIC	48	1
RE-ENTRY		49	BE REAL DJ MUSTARD,JOANNO (J.T.COLLINS,D.MCFARLANE,I.GRAMMA,N.AJODIN,LL.HUGES,D.LEONARDI,B.HAZZARD,D.M.FRIMBLE)	Kid Ink Featuring Dej Loaf THA ALBUM GROUP/BB CLASSIC/RCA	31	4
RE-ENTRY		50	PLANES VINYL,Z.FRANK DUKES (J.PFELTON,A.HERNANDEZ,A.WOODS,J.COLE,A.FEENY,A.ADMAS,R.HARRIS,K.JEFFRIES)	Jeremih Featuring J. Cole MICK SCHULTZ/DEF JAM	30	3

TOP R&B/HIP-HOP ALBUMS™						
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	ARTIST CERTIFICATION IMPRINT/DISTRIBUTING LABEL		Title	WKS. ON CHART	
1	1	#1 2 WKS	KENDRICK LAMAR TOP DAWG/AFTERMATH/INTERSCOPE/IGA	To Pimp A Butterfly	2	
2	2	SOUNDTRACK	Empire: Original Soundtrack From Season 1 20TH CENTURY FOX TV/COLUMBIA		3	
HOT SHOT DEBUT	3	ACTION BRONSON VICE/ATLANTIC/AG			Mr. Wonderful	1
	4	EARL SWEATSHIRT TAN CRESSIDA/COLUMBIA	I Don't Like Shit, I Don't Go Outside: An Album By Earl Sweatshirt			1
3	5	DRAKE	If You're Reading This It's Too Late YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC		7	
4	6	BIG SEAN G.O.O.D./DEF JAM	Dark Sky Paradise			5
6	7	J. COLE	2014 Forest Hills Drive DREAMVILLE/ROC NATION/COLUMBIA		16	
7	8	NICKI MINAJ	The Pinkprint YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC		15	
5	9	SOUNDTRACK	Furious 7 UNIVERSAL STUDIOS/ATLANTIC/AG		2	
8	10	CHRIS BROWN & TYGA	Fan Of A Fan: The Album YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/RCA		5	
10	11	G UNIT G UNIT	The Beast (EP)			4
11	12	NE-YO	Non-Fiction COMPOUND ENTERTAINMENT/MOTOWN/CAPITOL		9	
9	13	D'ANGELO AND THE VANGUARD	Black Messiah RCA		15	
12	14	RAE SREMMURD	SremmLife EARDRUM/INTERSCOPE/IGA		12	
17	15	MARY J. BLIGE	The London Sessions MATRIARCH/CAPITOL		17	
13	16	CHARLIE WILSON	Forever Charlie P MUSIC/RCA		9	
16	17	JOEY BADA\$\$	B4.Da.\$\$. PRO ERA/CINEMATIC		10	
18	18	BEYONCE	Beyonce PARKWOOD/COLUMBIA		68	
14	19	CHILDISH GAMBINO	Because The Internet GLASSNOTE		68	
21	20	EMINEM	The Marshall Mathers LP 2 WEB/SHADY/AFTERMATH/INTERSCOPE/IGA		74	
15	21	G-EAZY	These Things Happen G-EAZY/RVG/BPG		40	
19	22	RICK ROSS	Hood Billionaire MAYBACH/SLIP-N-SLIDE/DEF JAM		18	
20	23	RAHEEM DEVAUGHN	Love Sex Passion 368/EONE		6	
28	24	LOGIC	Under Pressure VISIONARY/DEF JAM		23	
25	25	KEM	Promise To Love: Album IV KEMISTRY/MOTOWN/CAPITOL		30	

R&B/HIP-HOP AIRPLAY™				
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	Artist	WKS. ON CHART
4	1	#1 1WK TRAP QUEEN RGF/300	Fetty Wap	9
2	2	THROW SUM MO Rae Sremmurd Feat. Nicki Minaj & Young Thug EARDRUM/INTERSCOPE		13
1	3	TRUFFLE BUTTER YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	Nicki Minaj Feat. Drake & Lil Wayne	14
3	4	AYO YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/RCA	Chris Brown & Tyga	14
8	5	UPTOWN FUNK! RCA	Mark Ronson Feat. Bruno Mars	10
10	6	EARNED IT (FIFTY SHADES OF GREY) UNIVERSAL STUDIOS/REPUBLIC	The Weeknd	9
5	7	7/11 PARKWOOD/COLUMBIA	Beyonce	19
12	8	FEELING MYSELF YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	Nicki Minaj Feat. Beyonce	16
6	9	I DON'T MIND RCA	Usher Feat. Juicy J	22
7	10	I DON'T F**K WITH YOU G.O.O.D./DEF JAM	Big Sean Feat. E-40	26
11	11	HOW ABOUT NOW YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	Drake	22
9	12	ONLY YOUNG MONEY/CASH MONEY/REPUBLIC	Nicki Minaj Feat. Drake, Lil Wayne & Chris Brown	22
14	13	POST TO BE MAYBACH/ATLANTIC	Omarion Feat. Chris Brown & Jhene Aiko	12
17	14	BLESSINGS G.O.O.D./DEF JAM	Big Sean Feat. Drake	8
13	15	SHE KNOWS COMPOUND ENTERTAINMENT/MOTOWN/CAPITOL	Ne-Yo Feat. Juicy J	26
21	16	ALL DAY G.O.O.D./ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM	Kanye West Feat. Theophilus London, Allan Kingdom & Paul McCartney	4
15	17	THE BODY EBM MUSIC/MAYBACH/ATLANTIC	Wale Feat. Jeremih	27
20	18	GOOD LOVIN DTP/DEF JAM	Ludacris Feat. Miguel	15
19	19	DON'T KILL THE FUN CBE/ATLANTIC	Sevyn Streeter Feat. Chris Brown	11
18	20	NOBODY KEMISTRY/MOTOWN/CAPITOL	Kem	27
23	21	SLOW MOTION SONGBOOK/ATLANTIC	Trey Songz	6
22	22	LATCH METHOD/PMR/CHERRYTREE/INTERSCOPE	Disclosure Feat. Sam Smith	31
25	23	I BET EPIC	Ciara	9
24	24	CALL MY NAME BIGSHINE/SHANACHIE	AverySunshine	28
30	25	COMMAS A-1/FREEBANDZ/EPIC	Future	5



Sunny Forecast For 'Grey' Weeknd

The Weeknd (above) scores his first No. 1 on Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs as "Earned It" (Fifty Shades of Grey)" steps 2-1 in its 14th week. The song takes Airplay Gainer honors, rising 23 percent across all radio formats to 85.6 million audience impressions (up 9-6 on Radio Songs) in the week ending March 29, according to Nielsen Music. "Earned It" is stationary at No. 2 on R&B/Hip-Hop Streaming Songs, but with a solid 24 percent rise in weekly clicks to 8.9 million. Rapper **Fetty Wap** scores his first No. 1 on R&B/Hip-Hop Airplay, hopping 4-1 with "Trap Queen," up 18 percent to 23.6 million audience impressions at the radio format. The rise, along with a 19 percent jump in digital sales (to 91,000 downloads), bumps the track 3-2 on Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs, a new peak.

On Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums, **Action Bronson** takes the Hot Shot Debut as *Mr. Wonderful* arrives at No. 3 with 44,000 copies. It's the rapper's major-label full-length debut following a number of mixtapes and his 2013 EP *Saaab Stories*, which entered the chart at No. 9 in June of that year with 8,000. Bronson enters the Artist 100 chart, which ranks the top artists across all genres and music consumption and social metrics, at No. 22.

Rapper **Earl Sweatshirt** follows with the second-highest entrance on Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums with *I Don't Like Shit, I Don't Go Outside: An Album by Earl Sweatshirt*. His sophomore album debuts with 27,000.

—Amaya Mendizabal

HOT LATIN SONGS™						
2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE	CERTIFICATION PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	Artist IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	PEAK POS.
1	1	1	#1 4 WKS DG SG EL PERDON	Nicky Jam & Enrique Iglesias SAGA WHITEBLACK (N.RIVERA CAMINERO, E.M.IGLESIAS)	LA INDUSTRIA/SONY MUSIC LATIN	1
3	2	2	AY VAMOS	A.RAMIREZ (J.A.OSORIO BALVIN, R.CANO, A.RAMIREZ, A.PATINO)	J Balvin CAPITOL LATIN/UMLE	31
2	3	3	PROPUESTA INDECENTE	A.SANTOS (A.SANTOS)	Romeo Santos SONY MUSIC LATIN	88
5	4	4	HABLAME DE TI	Banda Sinaloense MS de Sergio Lizarraga S.LIZARRAGA (H.PALENCIA CISNEROS)	REMX	23
7	6	5	CONTIGO	J.TIRADO CASTANEDA (E.MUNOZ, J.L.ROMA)	Calibre 50 DISA/UMLE	9
8	8	6	TRAVESURAS	D.WAY (N.RIVERA CAMINERO)	Nicky Jam LA INDUSTRIA	41
6	7	7	MI VERDAD	G.NORIEGA, F.OLVERA (F.OLVERA, G.NORIEGA)	Mana Featuring Shakira WARNER LATINA	7
11	10	8	HILITO	A.SANTOS, J.CHEVERE (A.SANTOS)	Romeo Santos SONY MUSIC LATIN	15
9	9	9	YO TAMBIEN	Romeo Santos Featuring Marc Anthony C.PENA, A.SANTOS (A.SANTOS)	SONY MUSIC LATIN	37
13	11	10	FANATICA SENSUAL	HAZE, D.DURAN (O.J.VALLE VEGA, E.FVAZQUEZ, E.ROSA CINTRON, D.DURAN)	Plan B PINA/SONY MUSIC LATIN	13
24	20	11	#1 AG NOTA DE AMOR	Wisn + Carlos Vives Feat. Daddy Yankee LOS LEGENDARIOS (J.L.MORERA LUNA, C.VIVES, A.CASTRO, R.L.AVALA RODRIGUEZ)	SONY MUSIC LATIN	7
10	12	12	EL KARMA	J.GONZALEZ (E.DIEZ)	Ariel Camacho y Los Plebes del Rancho DEL/SONY MUSIC LATIN	25
23	22	13	QUE TIENE DE MALO	J.TIRADO CASTANEDA (E.MUNOZ, A.RIOS)	Calibre 50 Featuring El Komander DISA/UMLE	23
17	16	14	SOLTERO DISPONIBLE	L.LUNA DIAZ (R.CARO, L.L.DIAZ, O.TARAZON)	Regulo Caro DEL/SONY MUSIC LATIN	22
21	19	15	PIERDO LA CABEZA	DJ URBIA, ROME (F.GORTIZ TORRES, G.E.PIZARRO, G.A.CRUZ PADILLA, Y.DAMAS, M.CEDENO URBAN, L.L.ROMERO)	Zion & Lennox BABY	9
16	14	16	ERES UNA NINA	G.GORTIZ (G.GORTIZ)	Gerardo Ortiz BAD SIN/DEL/SONY MUSIC LATIN	26
18	21	17	DIME	J.ALVAREZ (D.TOMAS, C.J.FRANCO, H.LEON)	Julion Alvarez y Su Norteno Banda FONOVISIA/UMLE	16
19	23	18	JUNTOS (TOGETHER)	J.LGUERRA SEIJAS (J.E.ARISTIZABAL, D.MARTINEZ BUENO, J.F.FONSECA)	Juanes WALT DISNEY/UNIVERSAL MUSIC LATINO/UMLE	10
27	27	19	ME SOBRABAS TU	A.LIZARRAGA (L.L.DIAZ, J.A.INZUNZA FABELA)	Banda Los Recoditos DISA/UMLE	8
20	17	20	LO HICISTE OTRA VEZ	F.CAMACHO TIRADO (T.NORIEGA)	La Arrolladora Banda el Limon de Rene Camacho DISA/UMLE	17
31	26	21	SIGUEME Y TE SIGO	CJ EDAY (R.L.AVALA RODRIGUEZ, L.E.ORTIZ RIVERA, C.E.ORTIZ)	Daddy Yankee CAPITOL LATIN/FEL CARTEL/UMLE	3
12	13	22	LEJOS DE AQUI	DJ LUJAN, NOIZE (C.E.REYES-ROSADO, V.V.MOORE)	Farruko CARBON FIBER/SIENTE	17
15	15	23	DISPARO AL CORAZON	J.REYES COPELLO (P.CAPOY, H.ENRIQUEZ, R.ESPARZA-RUIZ, R.MARTIN)	Ricky Martin SONY MUSIC LATIN	11
47	36	24	EL AMOR DE SU VIDA	J.ALVAREZ (J.BAHUMAE)	Julion Alvarez y Su Norteno Banda FONOVISIA/UMLE	3
26	25	25	EL QUE SE ENAMORA PIERDE	J.TIRADO CASTANEDA (E.MUNOZ, L.L.DIAZ)	Banda Carnaval DISA/UMLE	16
14	18	26	PIENSAS (DILE LA VERDAD)	Pitbull Featuring Gente de Zona P.CINCON, J.GARCIA (J.MORERA LUNA, J.PEREZ, J.GARCIA, J.MARTINEZ, A.DIEZ, J.L.MARTINEZ, M.CALDERON, A.J.MORERA LUNA, J.STRUMMA)	MR. 305/SONY MUSIC LATIN	18
22	24	27	ME VUELVO UN COBARDE	A.CASTRO (CHRISTIAN DANIEL, A.CASTRO, E. BARRERA, O.ALFANNO)	Christian Daniel SUMMA	15
29	28	28	INOCENTE	A.SANTOS, J.CHEVERE (A.SANTOS)	Romeo Santos SONY MUSIC LATIN	11
28	29	29	TE METISTE	J.GONZALEZ (S.MERCADO)	Ariel Camacho y Los Plebes del Rancho DEL	5
HOT SHOT DEBUT		30	PERDIDO EN TUS OJOS	Don Omar Featuring Natti Natasha NOT LISTED (NOT LISTED)	MACHETE/UMLE	1
-	45	31	Y VETE OLVIDANDO	J.ROSAS (M.BOJORQUEZ, A.RIOS)	Javier Rosas DISA/UMLE	3
38	34	32	TODO TUYO	A.LIZARRAGA (E. BARRERA, J.E.MURGUIA PEDRAZA, M.L.ARRIAGA)	Banda El Recodo de Cruz Lizarraga FONOVISIA/UMLE	7
34	32	33	LIBRE SOY	K.ANDERSON-LOPEZ, R. LOPEZ (K.ANDERSON-LOPEZ, R. LOPEZ, D.FILIO, R.ALDANA)	Carmen Sarahi WALT DISNEY	20
45	41	34	ENTONCES QUE SOMOS	L.LIZARRAGA, L.A.LIZARRAGA (L.L.DIAZ)	Banda El Recodo de Cruz Lizarraga FONOVISIA/UMLE	17
NEW		35	CALLA Y ME BESAS	ENIGMA NORTENO (E.BARAJAS, D.DOROZCO)	Enigma Nortena FONOVISIA/UMLE	1
32	31	36	ERES TU	PROYECTO X (C.A.ZAMORA, M.I.NUNEZ)	Proyecto X FONOVISIA/UMLE	16
NEW		37	SOLITA	NOT LISTED (NOT LISTED)	Prince Royce SONY MUSIC LATIN	1
36	33	38	MADRE TIERRA (OYE)	Y.ROMERO, A.RAYO GIBO (R.TOUZEYTY, ROMERO, B.LUENGO, A.RAYO GIBO)	Chayanne SONY MUSIC LATIN	9
41	37	39	QUE AUN TE AMO	M.A.ZAPATA MONTALVO, J.M.ELIZONDO (M.A.ZAPATA MONTALVO)	Pesado DISA/UMLE	3
40	39	40	NO TE CREAS TAN IMPORTANTE	J.SERRANO MONTOYA (R.DORRANTIA)	El Bebeto ASL/DISA/UMLE	11
49	44	41	NOCHE Y DE DIA	Enrique Iglesias Feat. Yandel & Juan Magan C.PAUCAR (C.RAMOS LOPEZ, E.M.IGLESIAS, W.LANDRON RIVERA, R.CASILLAS)	Yandel & Juan Magan REPUBLIC/UNIVERSAL MUSIC LATINO/UMLE	5
42	35	42	7 DIAS	A.SANTOS, J.CHEVERE (A.SANTOS)	Romeo Santos SONY MUSIC LATIN	12
37	38	43	AMIGO	A.SANTOS, J.CHEVERE (A.SANTOS)	Romeo Santos SONY MUSIC LATIN	11
44	47	44	CUANDO LA MIRO	M.LEDESMA (J.A.ITURBE)	Luis Coronel EMPIRE PRODUCTIONS/DEL	3
NEW		45	HOMBRE LIBRE	NOT LISTED (NOT LISTED)	La Adictiva Banda San Jose de Mesillas ANVAL/SONY MUSIC LATIN	1
NEW		46	MALDITAS GANAS	NOT LISTED (NOT LISTED)	El Komander TWINNS	1
46	40	47	A LO MEJOR	S.LIZARRAGA (I.CHAVEZ ESPINOZA)	Banda Sinaloense MS de Sergio Lizarraga REMX	3
39	42	48	SI TU NO ESTAS	DE LA GHETTO, DJ BLASS, NICKY JAM, SAGA WHITEBLACK (N.RIVERA CAMINERO)	Nicky Jam CODISCOS/LATIN NATION/LA INDUSTRIA	14
RE-ENTRY		49	QUIEREME	G.GOMEZ, E.DAVILA JR. (G.GOMEZ, L.E.MEJIA LOPEZ)	Johnny Sky PREMIUM LATIN/LATIN HITS	7
NEW		50	AY AMIGA	G.GOMEZ (E.DAVILA, G.GOMEZ, J.CRUZ)	Yunel Cruz MACHETE/UMLE	1

TOP LATIN ALBUMS™					
Last Week	This Week	Artist	Certification Imprint/Distributing Label	Title	Wks. On Chart
<div>Hot Shot Debut</div>	1	#1 1 WK JULION ALVAREZ Y SU NORTENO BANDA FONOVISIA/UMLE		Aferrado	1
NEW	2	BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB WORLD CIRCUIT/NONESUCH/WARNER BROS.		Lost And Found	1
1	3	JUAN GABRIEL FONOVISIA/UMLE		Los Duo	7
2	4	NATALIA JIMENEZ SONY MUSIC LATIN		Creo En Mi	2
4	5	ROMEO SANTOS		Formula: Vol. 2	57
3	6	RICKY MARTIN SONY MUSIC LATIN		A Quien Quiera Escuchar	7
6	7	JUAN GABRIEL SONY MUSIC LATIN		Mis Numero 1... 40 Aniversario	34
8	8	CALIBRE 50 DISA/UMLE		Lo Mejor de	8
10	9	ENRIQUE IGLESIAS		Sex And Love	54
9	10	VARIOUS ARTISTS FONOVISIA/UMLE		Las Bandas Romanticas de America 2015	10
NEW	11	LOS RIELEROS DEL NORTE MAMP/GOLDFINK/SONY MUSIC LATIN		Corridos y Canciones de Mi Tierra	1
13	12	MARCO ANTONIO SOLIS FONOVISIA/UMLE		15 Inolvidables	20
11	13	LA ARROLLADORA BANDA EL LIMON DE RENE CAMACHO DISA/UMLE		Ojos En Blanco	8
22	14	RICARDO ARJONA	METAMORFOSIS/SONY MUSIC LATIN	Viaje	45
NEW	15	LILA DOWNS RCA MEXICO/SONY MUSIC LATIN		Balas y Chocolate	1
15	16	ARIEL CAMACHO Y LOS PLEBES DEL RANCHO DEL/SONY MUSIC LATIN		El Karma	12
16	17	YANDEL SONY MUSIC LATIN		Legacy: de Lider A Leyenda Tour	8
NEW	18	SHAILA DURCAL CAPITOL LATIN/UMLE		Shaila Durcal	1
20	19	J BALVIN CAPITOL LATIN/UMLE		La Familia	50
7	20	GILBERTO SANTA ROSA SONY MUSIC LATIN		Necesito Un Bolero	10
17	21	VARIOUS ARTISTS FONOVISIA/UMLE		20 Corridos Bien Vol 2.	8
40	22	GG ROCIO DURCAL SONY MUSIC LATIN		Absoluta Coleccion: Rocio Durcal	2
32	23	VARIOUS ARTISTS FONOVISIA/UMLE		20 Corridos Bien Perrones	34
14	24	INTOCABLE GOOD I/UMLE		XX: 20 Aniversario	9
23	25	CALIBRE 50	DISA/UMLE	Contigo	33

TROPICAL AIRPLAY™				
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	Artist	WKS. ON CHART
3	1	#1 1WK AY AMIGA MACHETE/UMLE	Yunel Cruz	18
2	2	HILITO SONY MUSIC LATIN	Romeo Santos	8
4	3	PIERDO LA CABEZA BABY	Zion & Lennox	5
6	4	AGUA BENDITA KIYAVI/SONY MUSIC LATIN	Victor Manuelle	4
5	5	FANATICA SENSUAL PINA	Plan B	4
11	6	SIGUEME Y TE SIGO EL CARTEL	Daddy Yankee	3
8	7	SOLITA SONY MUSIC LATIN	Prince Royce	9
19	8	WE NEVER LOOKING BACK ELEGANT	Toby Love Featuring French Montana	15
10	9	ME MARCHARE PRIME RECORDS/PROMOVISION	Los Cadillacs Featuring Wisin	8
25	10	AHI ES DONDE YO LA GOZO LATIN PULSE	Guaco Featuring Victor Manuelle	5
23	11	LOCA CON SU TIGUERE MAYIMBA	Eddy-K & Silvio Mora	8
9	12	JUNTOS (TOGETHER) WALT DISNEY/UNIVERSAL MUSIC LATINO/UMLE	Juanes	10
31	13	GG BAILALO LATINA 150498	Tomas The Latin Boy	6
17	14	FALSO AMOR COSMOPOLITE	Jessy Rose	6
7	15	MI VERDAD WARNER LATINA	Mana Featuring Shakira	7
27	16	EL PERDON LA INDUSTRIA/SONY MUSIC LATIN	Nicky Jam & Enrique Iglesias	5
15	17	QUEDATE CONMIGO YOUNG BOSS	Jory Boy	8
12	18	QUE LO QUE MR. 305	Sensato Featuring Papayo	8
20	19	DEJAME VOLAR LGT LATIN	Giselle Tavera	12
13	20	PIENSAS (DILE LA VERDAD) MR. 305	Pitbull Feat. Gente de Zona	10
1	21	RULETA RUSA PINA	Tony Dize	20
18	22	ME VUELVO UN COBARDE SUMMA	Christian Daniel	9
24	23	SI PUDIERA MAYIMBA	Zacarias Ferreira	10
16	24	DISPARO AL CORAZON SONY MUSIC LATIN	Ricky Martin	9
35	25	LA PELICULA ON TOP OF THE WORLD/SONY MUSIC LATIN	J Alvarez Feat. Cosculluela	2



Streams Power ‘El Perdon’

Nicky Jam and Enrique Iglesias continue atop Hot Latin Songs for a fourth consecutive week with “El Perdon.” Streaming plays reached 2.8 million clicks in the week ending March 29 (according to Nielsen Music), pushing “El Perdon” 3-1 on Latin Streaming Songs and making the track only the second to reach such a lofty streaming sum on the now 2-year-old chart. Only the pop crossover smash “Bailando,” by Enrique Iglesias featuring Descemer Bueno and Gente de Zona, has crossed that threshold, peaking with 4.3 million plays (of both the Spanish and English-heavy versions combined) on Oct. 4, 2014. “El Perdon” stands atop Latin Airplay for a third week (10.9 million audience impressions, up 5 percent) and climbs 2-1 on Latin Digital Songs (up 50 percent to 11,000 downloads), notching Jam his first digital chart-topper and Iglesias his fourth. All this action lands the song a No. 66 debut on the Billboard Hot 100, the highest rank for a Spanish-dominant title on the list since “Odio” by Romeo Santos (featuring Drake) peaked at No. 45 on Feb. 15, 2014. Regional Mexican group Julion Alvarez y Su Norteno Banda arrives at No. 1 on Top Latin Albums with *Aferrado*, moving 6,000 copies. It’s the second chart-topper for the band, and its best first-week sales frame. Meanwhile, on Tropical Airplay, Yunel Cruz scores his first No. 1 as “Ay Amiga” hops 3-1 in its 18th week (up 11 percent in plays).

—Amaya Mendizabal

HOT LATIN SONGS: The week's most popular current Latin songs, ranked by radio airplay audience impressions as measured by Nielsen Music. Songs are defined as current if they are newly-released titles, or songs receiving widespread airplay and/or sales activity for the first time. TOP LATIN ALBUMS: The week's most popular current Latin albums, ranked by sales data as compiled by Nielsen Music. Albums are defined as current if they are less than 18 months old or older than 18 months but still residing in the Billboard 200's top 100. TROPICAL AIRPLAY: The week's most popular current tropical songs, ranked by radio airplay detections as measured by Nielsen Music. Stations are electronically monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. See Charts Legend on billboard.com/biz for complete rules and explanations. © 2015, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.

HOT CHRISTIAN SONGS: The week's most popular current Christian songs, ranked by radio airplay audience impressions as measured by Nielsen Music and streaming activity data by online music sources tracked by Nielsen Music. The week's top-selling current Christian albums, ranked by sales data as compiled by Nielsen Music. Albums are defined as current if they are less than 18 months old or older than 18 months but still residing in the Billboard 200's top 100. See Charts Legend on billboard.com for complete rules and explanations. © 2015, Prominentius Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.



April 11
2015
billboard

Christian/Gospel

ANDY BARRON

HOT CHRISTIAN SONGS™						
2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE CERTIFICATION PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	Artist IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	PEAK POS.	WKS. ON CHART
1	1	1	#1 26 WKS SOMETHING IN THE WATER ▲ M.BRIGHT (C.LINDERWOOD,C. DESTEFANO,BRETT JAMES)	Carrie Underwood 19/ARISTA NASHVILLE/PLG	1	26
2	2	2	OCEANS (WHERE FEET MAY FAIL) ▲ M.G.CHISLETT (M.CROCKER,J.HOUSTON,S.LIGHTHELM)	Hillsong UNITED HILLSONG/SPARROW/CAPITOL CMG	1	80
3	3	3	SOUL ON FIRE THE SOUND KIDS (B.BROWN,M.POWELL,T.ANDERSON,M.LEE,D.CARR,M.MAHER)	Third Day ESSENTIAL/PLG	3	15
5	4	4	BECAUSE HE LIVES (AMEN) E.CASH,J.LINGRAM (B.GAITHER,G.GAITHER,M.MAHER,J.LINGRAM,E.CASH,D.CARSON,C.TOMLIN)	Matt Maher ESSENTIAL/PLG	4	21
NEW		5	TOUCH THE SKY NOT LISTED (NOT LISTED)	Hillsong UNITED HILLSONG/SPARROW/CAPITOL CMG	5	1
6	6	6	GREATER B.GLOVER,D.GARCIA (B.MILLARD,M.SCHEUCHZER,N.COCHRAN,R.SHAFFER,B.GRAUL,D.A.GARCIA,B.GLOVER)	MercyMe FAIR TRADE	2	43
13	11	7	DROPS IN THE OCEAN C.WEDGEWORTH (J.LSTEINGARD,J.LINGRAM,M.BRONLEEWEE)	Hawk Nelson FAIR TRADE	7	12
10	8	8	BROKEN TOGETHER N.A.MILLER (M.HALL,B.HERMS)	Casting Crowns BEACH STREET/REUNION/PLG	8	21
4	7	9	COME AS YOU ARE G.SCOTT,N.NOCKELS (D.CROWDER,M.MAHER,B.GLOVER)	Crowder SIXSTEPS/SPARROW/CAPITOL CMG	3	33
8	9	10	HE KNOWS S.MOSLEY (J.CAMP,S.MOSLEY)	Jeremy Camp STOLEN PRIDE/SPARROW/CAPITOL CMG	4	26
15	14	11	BROTHER NEEDTOBREATHE Featuring Gavin DeGraw E.CASH,D.TOZER,NEEDTOBREATHE (N.RINEHART,W.RINEHART,G.DEGRAW)	ATLANTIC/WORD-CURB	2	15
7	5	12	HOW CAN IT BE P.MABURY (P.MABURY,J.LINGRAM,J.JOHNSON)	Lauren Daigle CENTRICITY	5	16
12	12	13	I AM NOT ALONE I.EWARDSON (K.JOBE,M.SAMPSON,M.FIELDS,B.DAVIS,G.PITTMAN,D.SAUDER,A.DAVIS)	Kari Jobe SPARROW/CAPITOL CMG	12	20
16	15	14	DAY ONE P.KIPLEY (M.WEST,P.KIPLEY)	Matthew West SPARROW/CAPITOL CMG	14	13
11	10	15	SHOULDERS TEDD T. (L.SMALLBONE,J.SMALLBONE,B.GLOVER,T.TJORNHOM)	for KING & COUNTRY FERVENT/WORD-CURB	10	16
14	13	16	BEYOND ME D.GARCIA,J.MCKEEHAN (T.MCKEEHAN,D.A.GARCIA)	tobyMac FOREFRONT/CAPITOL CMG	5	13
22	17	17	HOLY SPIRIT I.ESKELIN (B.TORWALT,K.TORWALT)	Francesca Battistelli FERVENT/WORD-CURB	17	5
18	16	18	GOOD FIGHT S.MOSLEY (J.LOWRY,C.MATTSON,T.MORGAN)	Unspoken CENTRICITY	16	13
19	18	19	MORE THAN YOU THINK I AM B.HERMS (D.GOKEY,B.HERMS,T.NICHOLS)	Danny Gokey BMG	18	17
26	25	20	THE MAKER E.CASH (C.AUGUST,E.CASH)	Chris August FERVENT/WORD-CURB	20	11
21	21	21	THIS IS LIVING Hillsong Young & Free Featuring Lecrae M.G.CHISLETT,B.TAN,M.FATKIN,A.KING (A.KING,J.DAVIES,L.MOORE)	HILLSONG/SPARROW/CAPITOL CMG	16	11
44	19	22	EVEN SO COME N.NOCKELS (C.TOMLIN,J.CATES,J.LINGRAM)	Passion Featuring Kristian Stanfill SIXSTEPS/SPARROW/CAPITOL CMG	19	3
37	27	23	THROUGH ALL OF IT D.GARCIA (B.GLOVER,M.REED)	Colton Dixon 19/SPARROW/CAPITOL CMG	23	3
23	23	24	ON FIRE P.KIPLEY (M.D.HAMMITT,C.ROHMAN,M.GRAALMAN)	Sanctus Real SPARROW/CAPITOL CMG	23	6
17	20	25	SAVE MY LIFE I.ESKELIN (D.FREY,B.MCDONALD,B.GLOVER)	Sidewalk Prophets FERVENT/WORD-CURB	17	23

HOT GOSPEL SONGS™						
2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE CERTIFICATION PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	Artist IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	PEAK POS.	WKS. ON CHART
2	1	1	#1 9 WKS FOR YOUR GLORY V.MITCHELL (M.BOOKER)	Tasha Cobbs MOTOWN GOSPEL	1	50
1	2	2	FILL ME UP M.BOOINE,C.CARTER (W.REGAN)	Casey J MARQUI BOONE/TYSCOT	1	25
3	3	3	I AM D.T.SOREY (J.NELSON,D.T.SOREY)	Jason Nelson RCA INSPIRATION	3	24
4	4	4	AMAZING R.ROBINSON,R.DILLARD,M.TAYLOR (T.MCGHEE)	Ricky Dillard & New G LIGHT	1	62
5	5	5	I WILL TRUST F.HAMMOND (F.HAMMOND,C.RODGERS,P.FEASTER)	Fred Hammond Feat. BreeAnn Hammond F HAMMOND/RCA INSPIRATION	4	29
7	6	6	WAR C.J.JENKINS,R.EAST (C.J.JENKINS)	Charles Jenkins & Fellowship Chicago INSPIRED PEOPLE	6	21
10	7	7	THIS PLACE M.BUTLER (D.W.BLAIR)	Tamela Mann TILLYMANN	7	12
8	9	8	GOD MY GOD V.MITCHELL,D.WEATHERSPOON (V.MITCHELL)	VaShawn Mitchell VMAN/MOTOWN GOSPEL	8	20
11	11	9	WORTH FIGHTING FOR A.W.LINDSEY (B.C.WILSON,A.LINES)	Brian Courtney Wilson MOTOWN GOSPEL	9	8
9	8	10	YOUR DESTINY H-MONEY (K.LEVAR)	Kevin LeVar And One Sound ONE SOUND	7	24
12	10	11	YES YOU CAN A.W.LINDSEY (C.DIXSON,M.L.SAPP)	Marvin Sapp RCA INSPIRATION	10	7
13	13	12	HOW AWESOME IS OUR GOD I.HOUGHTON (I.HOUGHTON,N.DIEDERICKS,M.HOUGHTON)	Israel & New Breed Feat. Yolanda Adams RGM NEW BREED/RCA/RCA INSPIRATION	11	9
14	12	13	BLESS THIS HOUSE R.CLICHE (D.CLARK-COLE,S.D.BEREAL,R.CLICHE,S.RENAUD,F.BLANCHARD)	Dorinda Clark-Cole LIGHT	12	12
25	15	14	DANCE D.WEATHERSPOON (B.WINANS,D.WEATHERSPOON)	3 Winans Brothers REGIMEN/BMG/EONE	14	4
NEW		15	MY WORDS HAVE POWER D.LAWRENCE (G.P.ROBINSON)	Karen Clark Sheard Feat. Donald Lawrence & The Co. KAREW/EONE	15	1
16	14	16	BLESS ME J.J. HAIRSTON & Youthful Praise Feat. Donnie McClurkin J.J.HAIRSTON,E.DAVIS (J.J.HAIRSTON,E.DAVIS)	LIGHT	9	25
17	16	17	I BELIEVE MALI MUSIC (K.J.POLLARD)	Mali Music BYSTORM/RCA/RCA INSPIRATION	16	15
20	18	18	FRIEND OF MINE E.E.BULLOCK,R.BLACK (E.E.BULLOCK,A.HAMILTON,R.BLACK)	DeWayne Woods Feat. Dave Hollister & Anthony Hamilton SOUL THERAPY	13	18
18	17	19	WHAT CAN I DO T.TRIBBETT II,B.JONES (K.J.SCRIVEN)	Tye Tribbett MOTOWN GOSPEL	17	19
NEW		20	MORE LOVE W.CAMPBELL (E.M.ATKINS-CAMPBELL,W.CAMPBELL)	Erica Campbell MY BLOCK/EONE	20	1
21	19	21	INDESCRIBABLE J.D.SHEARD II (L.STORY)	Kierra Sheard KAREW	15	21
19	21	22	GOD CAN D.MCCLURKIN (A.MCCLURKIN MELINI)	Andrea McClurkin-Mellini CAMDON	13	17
22	20	23	IT'S GONNA HAPPEN A.CARR (A.J.CARR)	Jekalyn Carr LUN/EAL/MALACO	15	20
-	25	24	FLAWS A.W.LINDSEY (D.E.WARREN)	Kierra Sheard KAREW	24	5
23	22	25	A LIL' LOUDER (CLAP YOUR HANDS) F.THOMAS,S.L-SCOTT (F.THOMAS,R.L.ALLEN,C.BYRD)	The Rance Allen Group TYSCOT	19	16

TOP CHRISTIAN ALBUMS™				
Last Week	This Week	Artist Imprint/Distributing Label	Title	Wks. On Chart
3	1	#1 3 Wks THIRD DAY Essential/PLG	Lead Us Back: Songs Of Worship	4
4	2	JEREMY CAMP Stolen Pride/SPARROW/Capitol CMG	I Will Follow	8
HOT SHOT DEBUT	3	SOCIAL CLUB Social Club	Us	1
	4	GG MERCYME Fair Trade/PLG	Welcome To The New	51
5	5	CASTING CROWNS Cracker Barrel/Beach Street/Reunion/PLG	Glorious Day: Hymns Of Faith	4
8	6	CHRIS TOMLIN SixSteps/SPARROW/Capitol CMG	Love Ran Red	22
7	7	VARIOUS ARTISTS Provident/Word-Curb/Capitol CMG	WOW Hits 2015	26
1	8	PASSION SixSteps/SPARROW/Capitol CMG	Even So Come	2
10	9	CASTING CROWNS Beach Street/Reunion/PLG	Thrive	62
2	10	MATT MAHER Essential/PLG	Saints And Sinners	2
11	11	BETHEL MUSIC Bethel/PLG	We Will Not Be Shaken	10
9	12	RED Essential/PLG	Of Beauty And Rage	5
18	13	NEWSONG Integrity/PLG	Faithful: Live Worship	3
14	14	LECRAE Reach	Anomaly	29
16	15	MAT KEARNEY Aware/Republic/INPOP/Capitol CMG	Just Kids	5
20	16	VARIOUS ARTISTS Mardel/Benson/PLG	12 Songs Of Worship	4
17	17	CROWDER SixSteps/SPARROW/Capitol CMG	Neon Steeple	44
28	18	REND COLLECTIVE Rend Collective/Integrity/PLG	The Art Of Celebration	53
26	19	SKILLET Atlantic/Word-Curb	Rise	84
32	20	FAMILY FORCE 5 Word-Curb	Time Stands Still	18
6	21	FOR KING & COUNTRY Fervent/Word-Curb	Run Wild. Live Free. Love Strong.	28
45	22	ELLIE HOLCOMB Full Heart/Good Time	As Sure As The Sun	8
22	23	FRANCESCA BATTISTELLI Fervent/Word-Curb	If We're Honest	49
29	24	ABOUT A MILE Word-Curb	About A Mile	13
30	25	VERIDIA Word-Curb	Inseparable (EP)	14

TOP GOSPEL ALBUMS™					
Last Week	This Week	Artist Imprint/Distributing Label	Title	Wks. On Chart	
NEW	1	#1 1WK 21:03 PAJAM	Outsiders (EP)	1	
1	2	CHARLES JENKINS & FELLOWSHIP CHICAGO INSPIRED PEOPLE/MOTOWN GOSPEL/CAPITOL CMG	Any Given Sunday	2	
2	3	VARIOUS ARTISTS MOTOWN GOSPEL/WORD-CURB/RCA INSPIRATION/RCA	WOW Gospel 2015	8	
3	4	VARIOUS ARTISTS MOTOWN GOSPEL/WORD-CURB/RCA INSPIRATION/RCA	WOW Gospel 2014	61	
4	5	TASHA COBBS MOTOWN GOSPEL/CAPITOL CMG	Grace (EP)	112	
5	6	VARIOUS ARTISTS EONE	Billboard #1 Gospel Hits	11	
NEW	7	KIRK WHALUM TOP DRAWER/RENDEZVOUS/MACK AVENUE	The Gospel According To Jazz, Chapter IV	1	
6	8	FRED HAMMOND F HAMMOND/RCA INSPIRATION/RCA	I Will Trust	19	
8	9	JASON NELSON RCA INSPIRATION/RCA	Jesus Revealed	10	
7	10	DORINDA CLARK-COLE LIGHT/EONE	Living It	6	
16	11	GG J.J. HAIRSTON & YOUTHFUL PRAISE LIGHT/EONE	I See Victory	23	
9	12	J MOSS PMG GOSPEL/PAJAM	Grown Folks Gospel	18	
11	13	THE BROOKLYN TABERNACLE CHOIR THE BROOKLYN TABERNACLE/PLG	Pray: Live	7	
12	14	DR. LARRY D. REID & THE BREAKTHROUGH SINGERS LORENTERPRISES	The Set (EP)	4	
10	15	3 WINANS BROTHERS REGIMEN/BMG/EONE	Foreign Land	26	
RE	16	WESS MORGAN BOWTIE	Livin'	38	
13	17	ERICA CAMPBELL MY BLOCK/EONE	Help	54	
RE	18	THE RANCE ALLEN GROUP TYSCOT/TASEIS	Celebrate	19	
18	19	VARIOUS ARTISTS MOTOWN GOSPEL/CAPITOL CMG	Icon: Gospel Icons	18	
14	20	JESSICA REEDY PURITY	Transparent	20	
15	21	WILLIAM MCDOWELL DELIVERY ROOM/EONE	Withholding Nothing	70	
25	22	DEWAYNE WOODS SOUL THERAPY	Life Lessons	7	
17	23	SMOKIE NORFUL TREMYLES/MOTOWN GOSPEL/CAPITOL CMG	Forever Yours	34	
22	24	VASHAWN MITCHELL VMAN/MOTOWN GOSPEL/CAPITOL CMG	Unstoppable	20	
19	25	VARIOUS ARTISTS SONOROUS	Great Gospel Classics: Songs Of Praise & Worship, Vol.1	4	



‘Sky’ The Limit For Hillsong

Hillsong United (above) storms in at No. 5 on Hot Christian Songs with “Touch the Sky,” immediately becoming the ensemble’s second-highest-charting single yet. Only its smash hit “Oceans (Where Feet May Fail),” which spent a record 45 weeks at No. 1, went higher. (“Oceans” continues in popularity, holding at No. 2 in its 80th week.)

The new track previews Hillsong United’s forthcoming *Empires*, which is due May 26. “Touch the Sky” enters Christian Digital Songs at No. 1 with 12,000 downloads sold in the week ending March 29, according to Nielsen Music.

“Touch the Sky” also debuts at No. 16 on Christian Airplay, with 3.3 million in audience.

Elsewhere on Christian Airplay, **Third Day** rises 2-1 with “Soul on Fire,” notching the group’s seventh No. 1. With the ascent, the band ties **Jeremy Camp** for the third-most leaders in the chart’s 12-year history. Only **MercyMe** (12) and **Casting Crowns** (nine) have more.

Staying in the airplay world, on Christian AC Songs, **Matt Maher** logs his first leader with “Because He Lives (Amen),” which climbs 2-1.

Switching gears to the Top Gospel Albums chart, vocal duo **21:03** earns its first No. 1 and highest sales week yet as the EP *Outsiders* bows with 4,000 sold. The act previously tallied three entries as a trio between 2006 and 2011 before the departure of **Jor’el Quinn** in 2012.

—Keith Caulfield

HOT DANCE/ELECTRONIC SONGS™						
2 WKS. AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE PRODUCTION (SONGWRITER)	Artist IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	PEAK POS.	WKS. ON CHART
1	1	1	<div>#1 4 WKS AGO</div> <div>I WANT YOU TO KNOW Zedd (A.ZASLAVSKI,R.B.TEDDER,K.N.DREW)</div>	Zedd Feat. Selena Gomez INTERSCOPE	1	6
2	2	2	<div>OUTSIDE Calvin Harris (CALVIN HARRIS,E.GOULDING)</div>	Calvin Harris Featuring Ellie Goulding FLY EYE/COLUMBIA	2	23
3	3	3	<div>PRAYER IN C R.SCHULZ,P.GUMMARD (N.HADIDA,B.COTTO)</div>	Lillywood & Robin Schulz CHOKE INDUSTRY/TONSPIEL/CINQ 7/WARGRAM/ATLANTIC/RRP	1	38
18	10	4	<div>DG</div> <div>HEY MAMA David Guetta Feat. Nicki Minaj & Afrojack (D.GUETTA,A.RONICKS,S.TUNFORTH,E.DEAN) (D.GUETTA,G.H.TUINFORT,V.HAYVE,N.WILL,JEAN-LOUIS,SONO,CLAS,OTTMAR) WHAT A MUSIC,PARLOPHONE,ATLANTIC</div>	4	18	
4	4	5	<div>RATHER BE J.PATTERSON,G.CHATTO (J.NAPIER,J.PATTERSON,N.MARSHALL)</div>	Clean Bandit Featuring Jess Glynne ATLANTIC/RRP	1	60
5	5	6	<div>WAVES MR. PROBZ (D.P.STEHR,J.RAHMOUNI)</div>	Mr. Probz LEFT LANE/ULTRA/RCA	1	37
9	9	7	<div>WHERE ARE U NOW SKRILLEX,DIPLO (S.MOORE,T.W.PENTZ,J.BIEBER)</div>	Skrillex & Diplo Feat. Justin Bieber MAD DECENT/OWSLA/ATLANTIC	7	5
6	7	8	<div>BLAME Calvin Harris (CALVIN HARRIS,J.J.NEWMAN)</div>	Calvin Harris Featuring John Newman FLY EYE/COLUMBIA	1	30
8	6	9	<div>BREAK FREE ZEDD,MAX MARTIN (A.ZASLAVSKI,MAX MARTIN,S.KOTECHE)</div>	Ariana Grande Featuring Zedd REPUBLIC	1	39
12	11	10	<div>YOU KNOW YOU LIKE IT DJ SNAKE (A.DEWJI-FRANCIS,G.REID)</div>	DJ Snake & AlunaGeorge INTERSCOPE	10	15
13	13	11	<div>SG</div> <div>LEAN ON Major Lazer X DJ Snake Featuring MO (DJ SNAKE,DIPLO,P.MECKSEPER (K.M.DRSTED,W.S.E.GRIGAHINE,T.W.PENTZ,P.MECKSEPER)</div>	MAD DECENT	11	4
11	12	12	<div>THE NIGHTS AVICII (N.FURLONG,G.BENJAMIN,J.SUECOF,J.FELDMANN,T.BERGLING,A.POURNOURI)</div>	Avicii PRMD/ISLAND/REPUBLIC	10	17
16	14	13	<div>FIVE MORE HOURS DEORRO (E.RODRIGUEZ),J.RYAN,J.BUNETTA,C.M.BROWN)</div>	Deorro X Chris Brown BI/PANDA FUNK/PRMD/ULTRA/RCA	13	4
-	26	14	<div>STOLE THE SHOW KYGO (KYGO,A.PARSON,K.KELSO,M.HARWOOD,M.HARWOOD)</div>	Kygo Featuring Parson James ULTRA	14	2
17	15	15	<div>FIRESTONE KYGO (KYGO,C.SEWELL)</div>	Kygo Featuring Conrad ULTRA/RCA	12	17
-	27	16	<div>DON'T LOOK DOWN MARTIN GARRIX,BUSBEE (MARTIN GARRIX,BUSBEE,J.ABRAHART,U.RAYMOND IV)</div>	Martin Garrix Featuring Usher SPINNIN'/RCA	16	2
15	16	17	<div>I'M AN ALBATRAOZ A.EKBERG (A.EKBERG,R.SAHLBERG,N.SAVVOLAINEN,M.HARVIDSSON)</div>	AronChupa ULTRA	10	11
21	18	18	<div>RUNAWAY (U & I) GALANTIS (C.KARLSSON,C.DENNIS,A.RUNDBERG,L.EKLOW,J.KOITZSCH)</div>	Galantis BIG BEAT/RRP	15	25
19	17	19	<div>OPEN WIDE Calvin Harris (CALVIN HARRIS,S.M.ANDERSON)</div>	Calvin Harris Featuring Big Sean FLY EYE/COLUMBIA	12	22
20	19	20	<div>DANGEROUS D.GUETTA,G.H.TUINFORTS,D.MARTIN,JEVIGAN (D.GUETTA,G.H.TUINFORT,S.D.MARTIN,JEVIGAN,L.ROBBINS)</div>	David Guetta Featuring Sam Martin WHAT A MUSIC,PARLOPHONE/ATLANTIC	6	26
26	24	21	<div>COOL ALESSO (A.LINDBLAD,B.WRONSKI,M.H.HANSEN,L.SECON,DAMON SHARPE,P.WALLEVIK,D.DAVIDSEN)</div>	Alesso Featuring Roy English REFUNE/DEF JAM	21	6
22	23	22	<div>TAKE U THERE SKRILLEX,DIPLO (S.MOORE,T.W.PENTZ,K.R.ELLESTAD)</div>	Skrillex & Diplo Featuring Kiesza MAD DECENT/OWSLA/ATLANTIC	14	26
24	22	23	<div>SOMETHING NEW S.INGROSSO,AXWELL (S.INGROSSO,AXWELL,V.PONTARE,S.A.FAKIR)</div>	Axwell & Ingresso AXWELL/REFUNE/DEF JAM	14	18
43	28	24	<div>KING M.RALPH,YEARS & YEARS (O.ALEXANDER,E.TURKMEN,M.GOLDSWORTHY,M.RALPH,A.SMITH)</div>	Years & Years POLYDOR/INTERSCOPE	24	6
23	25	25	<div>NOTHING REALLY MATTERS MR. PROBZ,G.H.TUINFORT (G.H.TUINFORT,D.P.STEHR,A.THIAM,J.GOSLING)</div>	Mr. Probz LEFT LANE/ULTRA	17	4
14	20	26	<div>LIVING FOR LOVE NOT LISTED (M.CICCONI,T.W.PENTZ,M.MCDONALD,T.GAD,A.RECHTSHAID,U.OSIOSIMA EMEIKE)</div>	Madonna LIVE NATION/INTERSCOPE	9	15
28	30	27	<div>PRAY TO GOD CALVIN HARRIS (CALVIN HARRIS,A.HAIM,D.HAIM,E.HAIM,A.RECHTSHAID)</div>	Calvin Harris Featuring HAIM FLY EYE/COLUMBIA	17	21
34	31	28	<div>RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW GIORGIO MORODER (G.MORODER,P.PATRIKIOS,K.POOLE,D.ETHERINGTON)</div>	Giorgio Moroder Featuring Kylie Minogue GIORGIO MORODER/RCA	28	6
31	33	29	<div>TO U SKRILLEX,DIPLO (S.MOORE,T.W.PENTZ,A.DEWJI-FRANCIS,G.REID)</div>	Skrillex & Diplo Featuring AlunaGeorge MAD DECENT/OWSLA/ATLANTIC	28	5
-	32	30	<div>ON MY WAY AXWELL,S.INGROSSO (AXWELL,S.INGROSSO,V.PONTARE,S.A.FAKIR)</div>	Axwell & Ingresso AXWELL/REFUNE/DEF JAM	30	2
45	38	31	<div>INTOXICATED MARTIN SOLVEIG,M.VAN TOTH,J.MEJIA (M.PICANDET,M.VON TOTH,J.MEJIA)</div>	Martin Solveig & GTA SPINNIN' DEEP/SPINNIN'	31	4
38	40	32	<div>WISH YOU WERE MINE P.GEORGE (S.H.MORRIS,H.COSBY,S.MOY)</div>	Philip George 3BEAT/ALL AROUND THE WORLD/MOTOWN/CAPITOL	32	6
50	44	33	<div>FREE PEOPLE T.MORAN (A.MORAN,M.E.WASH)</div>	Tony Moran Featuring Martha Wash SUGAR HOUSE/RADIKAL	33	3
36	37	34	<div>TILL IT HURTS YELLOW CLAW (N.BRONKHOLLS,TABHUT,TILLITTAHANOWANDOWEERNICKI,ROELANDSCHAP,FORAD,LOQUINES)</div>	Yellow Claw Featuring Ayden SPINNIN' 4TH & BROADWAY/ISLAND/REPUBLIC	31	15
HOT SHOT DEBUT	35	35	<div>NONSENSE H.P.LECLERCQ (H.P.LECLERCQ,M.D.FOSTER)</div>	Madeon Featuring Passion Pit POPCULTUR/COLUMBIA	35	1
48	43	36	<div>SPELL NOELIA (NOT LISTED)</div>	Noelia Featuring Timbaland & Peter D'Anga URBANLIFE/BSOUND/POPPER/PINK STAR	36	3
NEW	37	37	<div>IT'S ME P.LITVIN (TRYHARDNINJA)</div>	TryHardNinja TRYHARDNINJA	37	1
27	36	38	<div>I'M GONNA GET YOU D.AUDE (A.COLANDREO,A.MEECHAM,D.J.MEREDITH,D.AUDE,L.PERGOLIZZI)</div>	Dave Aude Featuring Jessica Sutta AUDACIOUS	27	7
NEW	39	39	<div>THE THRILL NOT LISTED (NOT LISTED)</div>	Nero MTA/MERCURY/CHERRYTREE/INTERSCOPE	39	1
-	46	40	<div>ALL WE NEED ODESZA (G.MILLS,C.J.KNIGHT,D.JVIDMAR)</div>	ODESZA Featuring Shy Girls FOREIGN FAMILY COLLECTIVE/COUNTER	38	3
-	21	41	<div>DESIRE M.RALPH,TWO INCH PUNCH (O.ALEXANDER,E.TURKMEN,M.GOLDSWORTHY,K.HARPOON)</div>	Years & Years POLYDOR/INTERSCOPE	21	3
-	35	42	<div>JUICY WIGGLE REDFOO,B.M.GARCIA (S.K.GORDY,B.M.GARCIA)</div>	RedFoo PARTY ROCK	35	2
NEW	43	43	<div>RISE D.GUETTA,G.H.TUINFORT (D.GUETTA,G.H.TUINFORT,SKYLAR GREY,KELLY)</div>	David Guetta Featuring Skylar Grey WHAT ARE RECORDS/PARLOPHONE/ATLANTIC	43	1
37	41	44	<div>SUN GOES DOWN T.BAXTER (T.R.HAVELOCK)</div>	Robin Schulz Feat. Jasmine Thompson TONSPIEL/ATLANTIC/RRP	21	19
RE-ENTRY	45	45	<div>PAY NO MIND H.P.LECLERCQ (H.P.LECLERCQ,M.ANGELAKOS)</div>	Madeon Featuring Passion Pit POPCULTUR/COLUMBIA	29	6
40	39	46	<div>DJ FAV J.BERMUDEZ (J.BERMUDEZ,V.PREZIOSO)</div>	Joe Bermudez Featuring Amanda Brigham 617	39	4
39	49	47	<div>YOU'RE ON H.P.LECLERCQ (H.P.LECLERCQ,J.NAPIER)</div>	Madeon Featuring Kyan POPCULTUR/COLUMBIA	25	13
29	34	48	<div>FORBIDDEN VOICES MARTIN GARRIX (MARTIN GARRIX,M.SORBARA,I.VAN DER VOORT)</div>	Martin Garrix SPINNIN'	29	4
-	47	49	<div>ARE YOU WITH ME FELIX DE LAET (T.L.JAMES,T.MCBRIDE,S.MCANALLY)</div>	Lost Frequencies ARMADA/ULTRA	34	9
47	45	50	<div>SUN MODELS ODESZA (H.G.MILLS,C.J.KNIGHT)</div>	ODESZA Featuring Madelyn Grant FOREIGN FAMILY COLLECTIVE/COUNTER	40	13

TOP DANCE/ELECTRONIC ALBUMS™				
Last Week	This Week	Artist Imprint/Distributing Label	Title	Wks. On Chart
4	1	#1 17 WKS LINDSEY STIRLING LINDSEYSTOMP	Shatter Me	48
5	2	ODESZA FOREIGN FAMILY COLLECTIVE/COUNTER	In Return	30
NEW	3	THE PRODIGY TAKE ME TO THE HOSPITAL/COOKING VINYL/WARNER BROS.	The Day Is My Enemy	1
1	4	PURITY RING 4AD	Another Eternity	4
NEW	5	ARMIN VAN BUUREN ARMADA	A State Of Trance 2015	1
6	6	CALVIN HARRIS FLY EYE/COLUMBIA	Motion	21
7	7	SKRILLEX & DIPLO MAD DECENT/OWSLA/AG	Skrillex & Diplo Present Jack U	5
10	8	DAVID GUETTA WHAT A MUSIC/PARLOPHONE/ATLANTIC/AG	Listen	18
2	9	YEARS & YEARS POLYDOR/INTERSCOPE/IGA	Y & Y EP	5
11	10	FKA TWIGS YOUNG TURKS	LP1	33
9	11	VARIOUS ARTISTS PROVIDENT/CAPITOL CMG/WORD-CURB/WARNER BROS.	WOW Hits Party Mix: Remixed	3
13	12	ROBIN SCHULZ TONSPIEL/ATLANTIC/AG	Prayer	26
14	13	VARIOUS ARTISTS UNIVERSAL/SONY MUSIC/LEGACY	NOW That's What I Call Party Anthems 2	34
15	14	SYLVAN ESSO PARTISAN	Sylvan Esso	46
3	15	VARIOUS ARTISTS MONSTERCAT	Monstercat 021: Perspective	2
17	16	VARIOUS ARTISTS POWER MUSIC	Power Music: 55 Smash Hits: Running Remixes	33
18	17	DEADMAU5 MAUSTRAP/ULTRA	5 Years Of mau5	16
NEW	18	GTA THREE SIX ZERO/WARNER BROS.	D.T.G. V.1: Death To Genres (EP)	1
16	19	DIE ANTWOORD ZEF RECORDZ/KOBALT	Donker Mag	10
20	20	CHET FAKER DOWNTOWN	Built On Glass	22
22	21	ABOVE & BEYOND ANJUNABEATS/ULTRA	We Are All We Need	10
RE	22	DAN DEACON DOMINO	Gliss Riffer	4
24	23	CLEAN BANDIT ATLANTIC/AG	New Eyes	37
8	24	BRITT NICOLE CAPITOL CMG	The Remixes	2
21	25	FLYING LOTUS WARP	You're Dead!	22

DANCE/ELECTRONIC DIGITAL SONGS™ TM				
Last Week	This Week	Title Imprint/Promotion Label	Artist	Wks. On Chart
4	1	#1 1 WK HEY MAMA David Guetta Feat. Nicki Minaj & Afrojack WHAT A MUSIC/PARLOPHONE/ATLANTIC/AG		11
1	2	I WANT YOU TO KNOW INTERSCOPE/IGA	Zedd Feat. Selena Gomez	6
2	3	OUTSIDE FLY EYE/COLUMBIA	Calvin Harris Feat. Ellie Goulding	23
8	4	WHERE ARE U NOW MAD DECENT/OWSLA/AG	Skrillex & Diplo Feat. Justin Bieber	5
3	5	PRAYER IN C CHOKE INDUSTRY/TONSPIEL/CINQ 7/WARGRAM/ATLANTIC/AG	Lillywood & Robin Schulz	35
6	6	YOU KNOW YOU LIKE IT INTERSCOPE/IGA	DJ Snake & AlunaGeorge	9
5	7	TURN DOWN FOR WHAT COLUMBIA	DJ Snake & Lil Jon	67
10	8	GET LOW WEDGEWOOD/DJ SNAKE/MAD DECENT/COLUMBIA	Dillon Francis & DJ Snake	53
12	9	WAVES LEFT LANE/ULTRA/RCA	Mr. Probz	37
14	10	HEROES (WE COULD BE) REFUNE/DEF JAM	Alesso Feat. Tove Lo	28
9	11	RATHER BE ATLANTIC/AG	Clean Bandit Feat. Jess Glynne	55
22	12	LEAN ON MAD DECENT	Major Lazer X DJ Snake Feat. MO	4
13	13	LATCH METHOD/PMR/CHERRYTREE/INTERSCOPE/IGA	Disclosure Feat. Sam Smith	81
18	14	RUNAWAY (U & I) BIG BEAT/AG	Galantis	24
20	15	BLAME FLY EYE/COLUMBIA	Calvin Harris Feat. John Newman	30
21	16	THE NIGHTS PRMD/ISLAND	Avicii	17
19	17	BREAK FREE REPUBLIC	Ariana Grande Feat. Zedd	39
16	18	DON'T LOOK DOWN SPINNIN'/RCA	Martin Garrix Feat. Usher	2
NEW	19	STOLE THE SHOW ULTRA	Kygo Feat. Parson James	1
17	20	I'M AN ALBATRAOZ ULTRA	AronChupa	11
23	21	A SKY FULL OF STARS PARLOPHONE/ATLANTIC/AG	Coldplay	39
25	22	TITANIUM WHAT A MUSIC/PARLOPHONE/WARNER BROS.	David Guetta Feat. Sia	171
15	23	WAKE ME UP! PRMD/ISLAND	Avicii	92
31	24	SAY MY NAME FOREIGN FAMILY COLLECTIVE/COUNTER	ODESZA Feat. Zyra	14
29	25	FIVE MORE HOURS BI/PANDA FUNK/PRMD/ULTRA/RCA	Deorro X Chris Brown	4



Prodigy's Day Dawns

The Prodigy parades into the top 10 of Top Dance/Electronic Albums with *The Day Is My Enemy* (No. 3; 3,000 copies sold in the week ending March 29, according to Nielsen Music). The new set marks the English outfit's fourth top 10, although its biggest-selling album predates the July 2001 launch of Top Dance/Electronic Albums: *The Fat of the Land* debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard 200 on July 19, 1997, sporting a lofty sales bow of 201,000 units.

Also on Top Dance/Electronic Albums, Armin van Buuren boasts the best start for any of his annual trance compilations since 2008 with the No. 5 launch of *A State of Trance 2015* (2,000). It's the 23rd album to grace the chart from the trance king, extending his record for the most charted titles in the tally's nearly 14-year history.

Moving on to Hot Dance/Electronic Songs, David Guetta drives into the top five with "Hey Mama" (10-4). Propelled by sales of 39,000 units (up 88 percent), the track also becomes Guetta's fourth No. 1 on Dance/Electronic Digital Songs (4-1).

Finally, on Dance Club Songs, Erika Jayne goes eight for eight, adding another No. 1 to her tally of smashes with "Crazy" (2-1). All of Jayne's chart entries have reached the top. Remixes from Chris Cox, DJLW and Jump Smokers, among others, helped lift Jayne to No. 1 again.

—Gordon Murray

NOT DANCE/ELECTRONIC SONGS: The week's most popular current dance/electronic songs, ranked by radio airplay, audience impressions as measured by Nielsen Music, streaming activity data by online music sources tracked by Nielsen Music and reports from a national sample of club DJs. Songs are defined as current if they are newly-released titles, or songs receiving widespread airplay and/or sales activity for the first time. TOP DANCE/ELECTRONIC ALBUMS: The week's most popular current dance/electronic albums, ranked by sales data as compiled by Nielsen Music. Albums are defined as current if they are less than 18 months old or older than 18 months but still residing in the Billboard 200's top 100. DANCE/ELECTRONIC DIGITAL SONGS: The week's top-downloaded dance/electronic songs, ranked by sales data as compiled by Nielsen Music. See Charts Legend on billboard.com/biz for complete rules and explanations. © 2015, Promethes Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.

DANCE CLUB SONGS™					
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	Artist	WKS. ON CHART	
2	1	#1 NEW CRAZY PRETTY MESS	Erika Jayne Feat. Maino	8	
4	2	RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW	Giorgio Moroder Feat. Kylie Minogue	6	
8	3	GG TALKING BODY	Tove Lo	5	
3	4	THE NIGHTS	Avicii	9	
12	5	FREE PEOPLE	Tony Moran Feat. Martha Wash	7	
11	6	IF YOU LET ME GO	Salt Ashes	9	
10	7	SPELL	Noelia Feat. Timbaland & Peter D'Angelo	8	
1	8	ELASTIC HEART	Sia	8	
5	9	I'M GONNA GET YOU	Dave Audé Feat. Jessica Sutta	9	
9	10	SOMETHING NEW	Axwell & Ingrid	13	
20	11	HEARTBEAT SONG	Kelly Clarkson	4	
7	12	OUTSIDE	Calvin Harris Feat. Ellie Goulding	11	
17	13	WISH YOU WERE MINE	Philip George	6	
6	14	DJ FAV	Joe Bermudez Feat. Amanda Brigham	9	
15	15	WRONG CLUB	The Ting Tings	12	
16	16	YOUNG BLOOD	Bea Miller	12	
21	17	ONE HOT MESS	Malea	5	
18	18	WHAT I NEED (RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW)	Dasco Feat. Justina Maria	7	
23	19	UNIVERSE	Mohombi	5	
25	20	BISCUIT	Ivy Levan	4	
24	21	WILDJOY	Temporary Hero & Jason Walker	5	
28	22	COOL	Alesso Feat. Roy English	3	
32	23	CHAINS	Nick Jonas	3	
19	24	FIESTA IN SAN JUAN	Assia Ahhatt Feat. Wisin	6	
27	25	AWAKE	Eddie Amador Feat. Lisa Williams	5	
26	26	REAL LOVE	Clean Bandit & Jess Glynne	9	
31	27	TAKE CARE OF MY HEART	Eddie Amador & Ultra Nate	4	
14	28	LIVING FOR LOVE	Madonna	12	
22	29	LOVE IS INDEPENDENT	D.O.N.S. Feat. Polina Griffith	7	
34	30	LIFT	Dirty Disco Feat. Debby Holiday	3	
35	31	I WANT YOU TO KNOW	Zedd Feat. Selena Gomez	2	
42	32	SACRED	Erasure	2	
38	33	SPARK	Novel	3	
40	34	WOMAN POWER	Ono	2	
13	35	TIME OF OUR LIVES	Pitbull & Ne-Yo	12	
30	36	DON'T SAY IT	Amoray	6	
37	37	INTOXICATED	Martin Solveig & GTA	4	
45	38	BRING ME HOME	Kanisha K	3	
HOT SHOT DEBUT	39	INSOMNIA	Audien Feat. Parson James	1	
50	40	LOVE ME LIKE YOU DO	Ellie Goulding	2	
47	41	TELL YOU	Kissy Sell Out Feat. Holly Lois	2	
NEW	42	WITH YOU	Cheyenne Elliott	1	
39	43	UPTOWN FUNK!	Mark Ronson Feat. Bruno Mars	16	
44	44	STYLE	Taylor Swift	3	
48	45	SUGAR	Maroon 5	2	
41	46	TAKE ME TO CHURCH	Hozier	8	
36	47	BACK TO YOU	Natasha Ashworth	10	
29	48	WHEN THE BEAT DROPS OUT	Marlon Roudette	10	
46	49	S.A.X.	Laidback Luke & Tujamo	4	
NEW	50	TRIPPIN'	Pink Panda Feat. Kim Porter	1	

Boxscore

April 11 2015

billboard

LEGEND

- Bullets indicate titles with greatest weekly gains.
- Album Charts
 - Recording Industry Assn. of America (RIAA) certification for physical shipments & digital downloads of 500,000 albums (Gold).
 - ▲ RIAA certification for physical shipments & digital downloads of 1 million units (Platinum). Numeral noted with Platinum symbol indicates album's multi-platinum level.
 - ◆ RIAA certification for physical shipments & digital downloads of 10 million units (Diamond). Numeral noted with Diamond symbol indicates album's multi-platinum level.
 - Latin albums certification for physical shipments & digital downloads of 30,000 units (Oro).
 - △ Latin albums certification for physical shipments & digital downloads of 60,000 units (Platino). Numeral noted with Platinum symbol indicates album's multi-platinum level.

- Digital Songs Charts
 - RIAA certification for 500,000 paid downloads and on-demand streams where 100 streams equal 1 download. (Gold).
 - ▲ RIAA certification for 1 million paid downloads and on-demand streams where 100 streams equal 1 download. (Platinum). Numeral noted with platinum symbol indicates song's multiplatinum level.

- Awards
 - PS (PaceSetter for largest % album sales gain)
 - GG (Greatest Gainer for largest volume gain)
 - DG (Digital Sales Gainer)
 - AG (Airplay Gainer)
 - SG (Streaming Gainer)

Publishing song index available on billboard.com/biz.
Visit billboard.com/biz for complete rules and explanations.

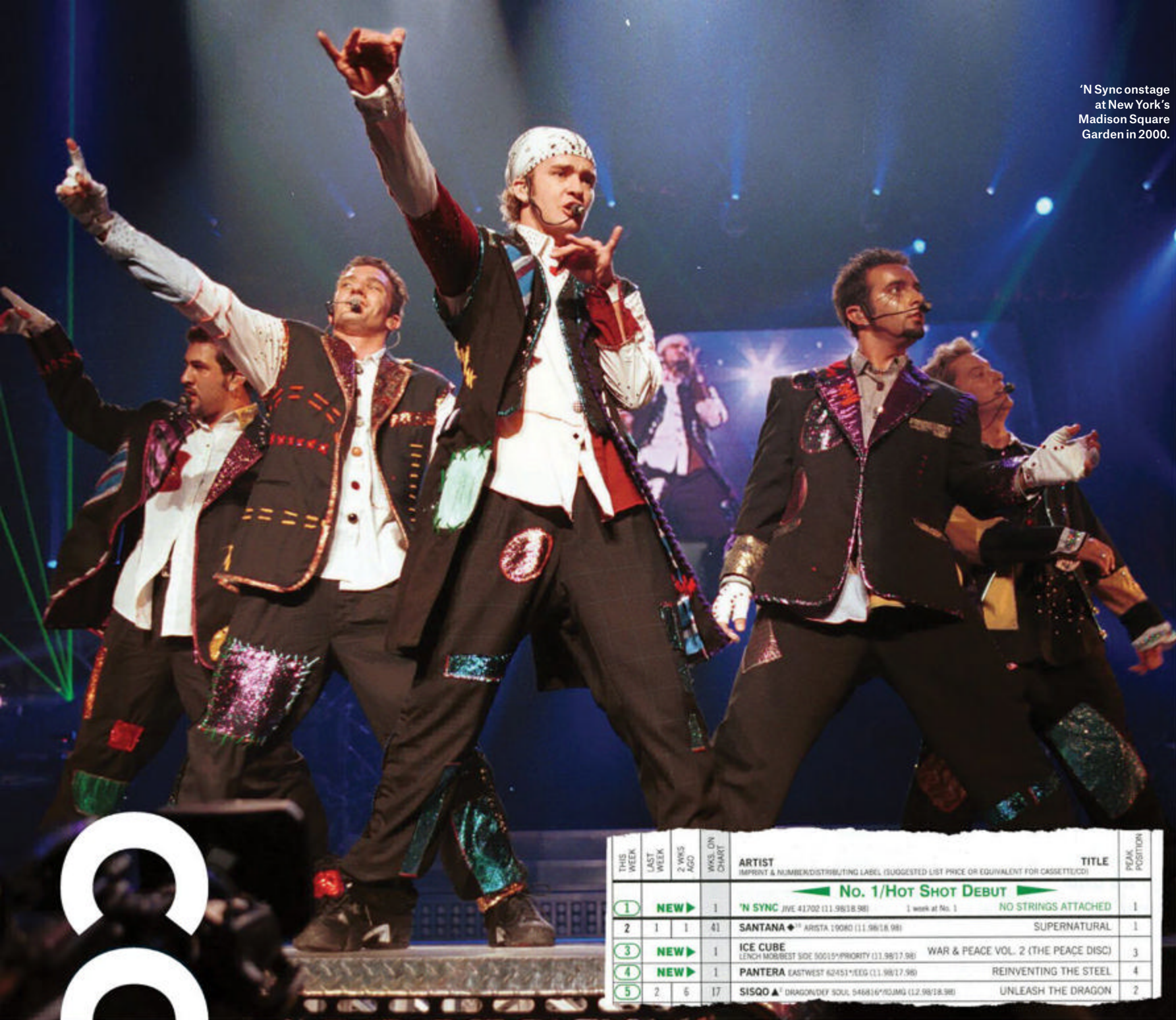
	GROSS PER TICKET PRICE(S)	ARTIST VENUE DATE	ATTENDANCE CAPACITY	PROMOTER
1	\$17,834,500 (2,122,787,000 YEN) \$150/\$100	ONE DIRECTION, 5 SECONDS OF SUMMER SAITAMA SUPER ARENA, SAITAMA, JAPAN FEB. 27-MARCH 2	120,328 FOUR SELLOUTS	CREATIVEMAN PRODUCTIONS
2	\$9,987,210 (1,188,787,000 YEN) \$150/\$100	ONE DIRECTION KYOCERA DOME, OSAKA, JAPAN FEB. 24-25	79,674 TWO SELLOUTS	CREATIVEMAN PRODUCTIONS
3	\$7,899,229 (102,689,971 PESOS) \$384.62/\$34.62	LUIS MIGUEL AUDITORIO NACIONAL, MEXICO CITY JAN. 29-31, FEB. 1, 12-15, 26-28, MARCH 1	101,946 114,240 TWELVE SHOWS	FUAAN, IN-HOUSE
4	\$6,708,090 (\$8,580,540 AUSTRALIAN) \$109.37/\$78.10	ONE DIRECTION, MCBUSTED, SAMANTHA JADE ALLIANZ STADIUM, SYDNEY FEB. 7-8	62,649 TWO SELLOUTS	NINE EVENTS
5	\$6,365,750 (286,142,515 PESOS) \$399.33/\$25.58	ONE DIRECTION, DJ NIVRAM SM MALL OF ASIA CONCERT GROUNDS, MANILA MARCH 21-22	48,194 TWO SELLOUTS	MMI LIVE
6	\$6,216,790 (\$8,015,980 AUSTRALIAN) \$108.50/\$77.48	ONE DIRECTION, MCBUSTED, SAMANTHA JADE ETIHAD STADIUM, MELBOURNE FEB. 14-15	59,253 TWO SELLOUTS	NINE EVENTS
7	\$4,653,340 (\$5,966,591 AUSTRALIAN) \$778.15/\$104.94	EAGLES PERTH ARENA, PERTH, AUSTRALIA FEB. 18-19	25,749 TWO SELLOUTS	FRONTIER TOURING
8	\$3,858,030 (\$5,063,814 AUSTRALIAN) \$759.57/\$100.62	EAGLES BRISBANE ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA MARCH 10-11	20,142 TWO SELLOUTS	FRONTIER TOURING
9	\$3,668,500 (\$4,707,667 AUSTRALIAN) \$109.02/\$77.85	ONE DIRECTION, MCBUSTED, SAMANTHA JADE SUNCORP STADIUM, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA FEB. 11	34,184 SELLOUT	NINE EVENTS
10	\$3,571,740 (\$4,950,688 SINGAPORE) \$279.93/\$106.78	ONE DIRECTION, DJ LINCEY NATIONAL STADIUM, SINGAPORE MARCH 11	29,419 SELLOUT	LUSHINGTON ENTERTAINMENT, LIVE NATION
11	\$3,530,810 (\$4,522,614 AUSTRALIAN) \$776.80/\$53.87	EAGLES ALLPHONES ARENA, SYDNEY MARCH 4, 6	21,606 TWO SELLOUTS	FRONTIER TOURING
12	\$3,409,370 (\$4,220,150,000 RUPIAH) \$212.02/\$77.10	ONE DIRECTION GELORA BUNG KARNO STADIUM, JAKARTA, INDONESIA MARCH 25	43,032 SELLOUT	SOUND RHYTHM
13	\$3,245,290 (\$4,162,072 AUSTRALIAN) \$109.08/\$77.90	ONE DIRECTION, MCBUSTED, SAMANTHA JADE DOMAIN STADIUM, PERTH, AUSTRALIA FEB. 20	28,968 SELLOUT	NINE EVENTS
14	\$2,857,331 \$91.50/\$19.50	BILLY JOEL, GAVIN DEGRAW CARRIER DOME, SYRACUSE, N.Y. MARCH 20	36,594 SELLOUT	AEG LIVE
15	\$2,581,990 (\$3,320,931 AUSTRALIAN) \$108.77/\$77.67	ONE DIRECTION, MCBUSTED, SAMANTHA JADE AAMI STADIUM, ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA FEB. 17	27,401 SELLOUT	NINE EVENTS
16	\$2,519,210 (\$3,223,269 AUSTRALIAN) \$77.38	ED SHEERAN, JAMIE LAWSON, CONRAD SEWELL QANTAS CREDIT UNION ARENA, SYDNEY MARCH 24-26	36,545 THREE SELLOUTS	FRONTIER TOURING
17	\$2,401,630 (78,574,015 BAHT) \$168.11/\$55.02	ONE DIRECTION, DJ ONO RAJAMANGALA NATIONAL STADIUM, BANGKOK MARCH 14	23,078 SELLOUT	BECC-TERO
18	\$2,268,780 (\$17,605,252 HONG KONG) \$294.85/\$127.32	ONE DIRECTION, DJ YIN ASIAWORLD-ARENA, HONG KONG MARCH 18	9,673 SELLOUT	LUSHINGTON ENTERTAINMENT, LIVE NATION
19	\$1,992,960 (\$2,554,025 AUSTRALIAN) \$776.42/\$102.85	EAGLES QANTAS CREDIT UNION ARENA, SYDNEY MARCH 2	10,424 SELLOUT	FRONTIER TOURING
20	\$1,846,056 (\$23,998,731 PESOS) \$64.63	JULIAN ALVAREZ AUDITORIO NACIONAL, MEXICO CITY MARCH 26-28	28,560 THREE SELLOUTS	ZZOOM ACCESS
21	\$1,781,150 (\$2,312,937 AUSTRALIAN) \$307.38/\$103.61	ROD STEWART, JAMES REYNE PERTH ARENA, PERTH, AUSTRALIA MARCH 21	13,040 SELLOUT	FRONTIER TOURING
22	\$1,563,087 \$179.50/\$49.50	FLEETWOOD MAC KFC YUM! CENTER, LOUISVILLE, KY. FEB. 17	15,747 SELLOUT	LIVE NATION
23	\$1,561,614 \$186.50/\$56.50	JUAN GABRIEL AMERICAN AIRLINES CENTER, DALLAS FEB. 26	14,126 14,803	CARDENAS MARKETING NETWORK, LIVE NATION
24	\$1,484,358 \$125/\$29.50	MAROON 5, MAGIC!, ROZZI CRANE KFC YUM! CENTER, LOUISVILLE, KY. MARCH 14	17,645 SELLOUT	LIVE NATION
25	\$1,411,442 \$67.50/\$37.75	LUKE BRYAN, RANDY HOUSER, DUSTIN LYNCH AMWAY CENTER, ORLANDO FEB. 19, 21	22,467 24,013 TWO SHOWS ONE SELLOUT	LIVE NATION
26	\$1,391,330 (\$1,803,924 AUSTRALIAN) \$107.21/\$96.41	BILLY CONNOLLY PERTH ARENA, PERTH, AUSTRALIA MARCH 10-11	14,796 14,934 TWO SHOWS	DUET PRODUCTIONS
27	\$1,266,740 \$225/\$65	BOB SEGER & THE SILVER BULLET BAND BRIDGESTONE ARENA, NASHVILLE MARCH 28	16,402 SELLOUT	LIVE NATION
28	\$1,099,995 \$198/\$57.50	JUAN GABRIEL FREEMAN COLISEUM, SAN ANTONIO MARCH 7	10,227 SELLOUT	CARDENAS MARKETING NETWORK
29	\$1,035,330 (\$1,345,724 AUSTRALIAN) \$117.06/\$84.47	KYLIE MINOGUE, GIORGIO MORODER, BETTY WHO QANTAS CREDIT UNION ARENA, SYDNEY MARCH 20	9,129 9,735	FRONTIER TOURING
30	\$1,028,316 \$146.25/\$55.25	JUAN GABRIEL U.S. AIRWAYS CENTER, PHOENIX FEB. 5	10,645 12,125	CARDENAS MARKETING NETWORK
31	\$1,026,025 \$147.50/\$20	STEVIE WONDER TARGET CENTER, MINNEAPOLIS MARCH 29	10,577 SELLOUT	LIVE NATION
32	\$935,310 \$63.25/\$60.25/\$36.75	LUKE BRYAN, RANDY HOUSER, DUSTIN LYNCH KFC YUM! CENTER, LOUISVILLE, KY. FEB. 12	15,783 SELLOUT	LIVE NATION
33	\$915,090 \$222/\$56.50	JUAN GABRIEL LAREDO ENERGY ARENA, LAREDO, TEXAS FEB. 21	8,920 SELLOUT	CARDENAS MARKETING NETWORK, LIVE NATION, AGAVE PRODUCTIONS
34	\$909,856 \$150/\$125/\$85/\$59.50	CHARLIE WILSON, KEM, JOE NOKIA THEATRE L.A. LIVE, LOS ANGELES MARCH 25-26	8,915 TWO SELLOUTS	AEG LIVE
35	\$876,554 \$197/\$86.50	JUAN GABRIEL STATE FARM ARENA, HIDALGO, TEXAS FEB. 20	6,684 SELLOUT	CARDENAS MARKETING NETWORK, LIVE NATION



Miguel Returns Home

Luis Miguel (above) scores the No. 3 slot on the latest Boxscore chart with ticket sales reported from 12 concerts at Mexico City's Auditorio Nacional from Jan. 29 through March 1. With a combined gross of \$7.8 million, the Latin pop star drew more than 100,000 fans to his home country's national auditorium during the four-week period. Performing a string of shows during the first quarter at the 9,600-seat venue is a tradition for Miguel, who books a multiple-show stand roughly every other year. Previous wintertime engagements occurred in 2009, 2011 and 2013 and biennially between 2000 and 2006. The Boxscore archives also include concert runs at various times during the '90s. His top-grossing engagement at the venue comes from 30 performances in January/February 2006 with \$19.2 million in revenue from 267,528 sold seats. **One Direction** makes its first Boxscore appearance of the year with sales figures reported from the pop group's On the Road Again Tour that launched Feb. 7 in Australia at Sydney's Allianz Stadium. The first two legs of the world tour included 19 sold-out performances during February and March in Australia and Asia that grossed \$68 million from more than a half-million sold tickets. The boy band also owns the No. 1 Boxscore: a four-night engagement in the Tokyo market with \$17.8 million in sales. —*Bob Allen*

'N Sync onstage at New York's Madison Square Garden in 2000.



CO DA

15 Years Ago 'N SYNC SOARED WITH 'NO STRINGS'

The group's second CD sold 2.4 million copies in its first week of release — a record that has yet to be topped

REWINDING
THE
CHARTS

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS AGO	WKS. ON CHART	ARTIST	TITLE	PEAK POSITION
1	NEW	1	1	'N SYNC (JIVE 41702) (1.98/1.8.98)	No. 1/HOT SHOT DEBUT NO STRINGS ATTACHED	1
2	1	1	41	SANTANA (ARISTA 19080) (1.98/1.8.98)	SUPERNATURAL	1
3	NEW	1	1	ICE CUBE (LENCH MOB/BLVD SIDE 50015)*PRIORITY (1.98/1.7.98)	WAR & PEACE VOL. 2 (THE PEACE DISC)	3
4	NEW	1	1	PANTERA (EASTWEST 62451)*JIVE (1.98/1.7.98)	REINVENTING THE STEEL	4
5	2	6	17	SISQO (DRAGON/DEF SOUL 546816)*JIVE (1.98/1.8.98)	UNLEASH THE DRAGON	2

IN APRIL 2000, 'N SYNC WAS ON TOP OF the world. The members of the group — Lance Bass, then 20; J.C. Chasez, 23; Joey Fatone, 23; Chris Kirkpatrick, 28; and future prince of pop Justin Timberlake, 19 — were steadily building in popularity since their first hit, "I Want You Back," debuted on the Mainstream Top 40 chart in January 1998.

But things were about to get much bigger. RCA Records (through a production deal with Louis "Lou" Pearlman's Trans Continental Group) released the boy band's self-titled debut in March 1998, and though it debuted at a rather lowly No. 82 on the Billboard 200, it hit the top 10 four months later and remained there until the following March. A 1998 Christmas album also peaked in the top 10.

'N Sync's highly anticipated follow-up, *No Strings Attached*, was set for a

pre-Christmas 1999 release until the group signed a label deal with Jive Records, which triggered a \$150 million breach-of-contract lawsuit by RCA's then-parent BMG and Trans Continental. The band struck a deal in December that enabled it to stick with Jive, and *No Strings* was released on March 21, 2000. Pent-up demand for the album and its smash lead single, "Bye Bye Bye" — No. 1 for 10 weeks on Mainstream Top 40 — led to a blockbuster bow. According to Nielsen Music, the album sold 2.4 million copies, the single-largest sales week for an album since Nielsen began tracking data in 1991. The record still stands. Though the act — which went on hiatus in the mid-2000s after releasing a final album in 2001, *Celebrity* — did regroup to perform at the 2013 MTV Video Music Awards, it has no further reunion plans. —KEITH CAULFIELD

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billboard**BACKSTAGE PASS**

TOP RADIO PROGRAMMERS

In the May 9 issue, *Billboard* will showcase the top Radio Programmers in the country in a special feature. Programmers select the music that will be played and how often, fueling pop-culture excitement, breaking new artists and keeping established stars reaching a wide mass audience. Their decisions mold the music conversation and help influence artists' and songs' positions on the *Billboard* charts.

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TO ADVERTISE, CONTACT:

Aki Kaneko
323.525.2299 | aki.kaneko@billboard.com

Joe Maimone
212.493.4427 | joe.maimone@billboard.com

Lee Ann Photoglo
615.376.7931 laphotoglo@gmail.com

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